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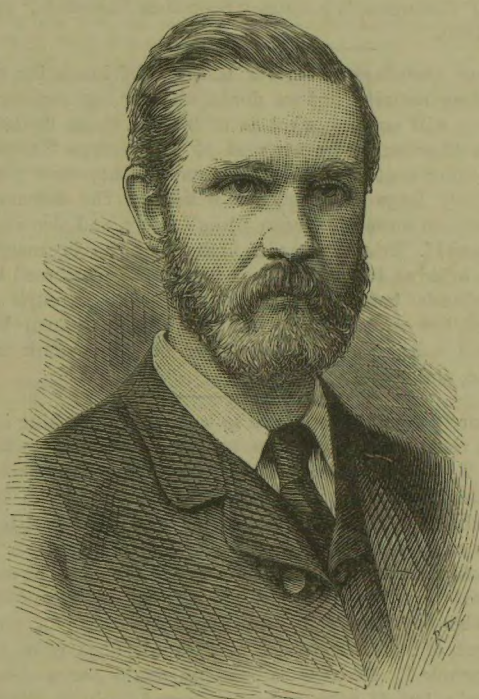
SATURDAY, JANUARY 16, 1886.

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT SIXPENCE. BY POST, 6½D.

THE EXPEDITION TO UPPER BURMAH.



KING THEEBAW IN STATE.



MR. T. BERNARD, CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF BURMAH,
NOW AT MANDALAY.



KING THEEBAW AND HIS QUEEN, SOOPYA-LAT.



ARMS FOUND IN THE KING'S PALACE AT MANDALAY.



The Eastern Question, like the poor, we have always with us; and apparently it, like the poor, will never die out of the land. Over that question, however, a change has come. Formerly, up to the date of the Crimean War, the question seemed to be an affair of the Great Powers solely; now it seems to be an affair of the Little Powers. One of these latter, however, which is Greece, has always been watching the various shiftings of the question as a cat watches the movements of a mouse, and has always been hoping for personal advantage from no matter what solution. Greece yearns after Constantinople as the true, patriotic Jew after Jerusalem, and perhaps with as little apparent chance of speedy or even ultimate possession. Nevertheless, Greece naturally hails with joy, and promotes with alacrity, any disturbance which may seem likely to dismember the Turkish Empire and augment her own. It is well known that during the Crimean War the sympathies of Greece were with Russia, partly on religious grounds, but chiefly because of Russia's desire to administer the "coup de grâce" to the "sick man." Not that Greece would care to have Russia established at Constantinople; but any wind that blows ill to Turkey is regarded as blowing good to Greece; and, besides, there were—and perhaps there still are—Greeks ingenuous and sanguine enough to believe that Russia would only "keep Constantinople warm" for them. However that may be, the Eastern Question has been transferred, as it were, to the Little Powers for the moment, to decide what phase it shall assume; and Greece is apparently determined to "have a finger in the pie," in case she may be able to perform the feat accomplished by the celebrated Jack Horner with his thumb. It is true the Great Powers have at last called upon Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece to disarm.

Among other signs of the times, it is said that smoking is becoming quite common with ladies, young and old. Apple-women and others of their sex have long been in the habit of smoking short clay-pipes, as the most casual observer must be aware; but cigarettes appear to be the "ladies' smoke"; and we are informed, not perhaps on the very best authority, that the dainty little silver cigarette-cases exhibited in shop-windows are intended for ladies chiefly. Experience would lead one to doubt the truth of that statement: at any rate, ladies do not seem to avail themselves very freely of the kind and delicate intention. After all, the "higher education of women," or, still more, "women's rights," may embrace the smoking of cigarettes; and there is no more to be said. Some authorities will have it that smoking has been adopted by ladies as a measure of self-defence or equalisation, just as onions are sometimes eaten, so that both parties may be on equal (and equally offensive) terms.

However lax society may be in its views of spelling or speaking the language of a neighbouring country, there are stern limits with regard to its own, which may not be overstepped without incurring serious penalties. The English Spelling Reform Association is most anxious, it would seem, to do away, once and for all, with all the little tricks of Empiricism by which one class of our fellow countrymen thinks to distinguish itself from another. But this is only one half of the work of the association, as we gather from a very sensible paper by the vice-president, Mr. Henry Sweet (published by Hilton and Co., Hanway-street), who holds that spelling reform of our own language must underlie, if it does not absolutely precede, a practical study of other languages. The arguments he puts forward are at least worth consideration, if not refutation. For our own part, we should be disposed to think that until a "lingua franca" is admitted into the European *Sprachverein*, throughout which every vowel and consonant shall have the same current value, all efforts at the formation of a universal language may be regarded as futile, and that the time of practical men will be better employed in removing the stumbling-blocks which obstruct the pathway of knowledge in their respective countries. We have got beyond the stage when the indignant patriot could kindle fire among his auditors by asking, "What can you think of a man who calls a hat a *shappo*?"

In this subject of spelling reform, however, we must admit that our American cousins have, since the days of Noah Webster, attempted to impose upon our insular English certain improvements in orthography. So far their success has not been commensurate with their zeal; but perhaps we may hear ere long of greater results now that the matter has been taken up by a joint-stock company, for "limited liability" in orthography should find universal support. At Mendota, Illinois, an association has been formed, with a capital of 35,000 dols., "for carrying through the great national reform in spelling, and introducing a new and strictly phonetic alphabet." The capital embarked seems small when one considers the opposition any such reform would encounter from printers, compositors, and the publishers of already stereotyped works; but the movement has already obtained the support of a member of the United States Senate, who has moved to devote public funds to paying a Commission which shall devise a plan of consistent orthography. Dr. W. D. Whitney, the Professor of Sanskrit in Yale College, has, moreover, republished his essay "How Shall We Spell?" (obtainable for sixpence at the above-named publishers) in which many of the useless anomalies of our present orthography are lucidly set forth, and its perusal will suggest many doubts to those who defend silent or useless letters in such words as *debt*, *doubt*, &c., on historic or etymological grounds, which in "account" &c., were abandoned a hundred years ago.

One of the most remarkable of literary forgeries, whether for its importance, its audacity, its ingenuity, or the length of time for which it escaped detection, is exposed in the article on Charles Bertram in the new "English Biographical Dictionary." Bertram, a teacher of English at Copenhagen, in 1747 informed the antiquary Stukeley of the existence, in the hands of a friend of his, of an itinerary of England, with a map, by Richard of Cirencester, a monk of Westminster of the fourteenth century. Stukeley urged him to obtain the MS., which Bertram, after some delay, professed to have accomplished, and sent over specimens, which the palæographers of the day pronounced to be four hundred years old. Stukeley communicated an analysis of the work to the Society of Antiquaries; and in 1757 Bertram published the entire fabrication, along with Gildas and Neunius. It was accepted without question, and has more or less marred and vitiated all the chief works referring in any way to Roman Britain to a very recent date, from the Ordnance map downwards. Although suspected by many, and denounced as a forgery by the late Mr. Woodward, Librarian to the Queen, in 1866, it was republished without any expression of scepticism by Dr. Giles, in 1872; and the article in the "Dictionary of Biography" will probably be the first revelation of its true character to the general public. It is remarkable, however, that the writer of the article fails to refer to, and has apparently made no use of, the full account of the history of opinion on the subject by the Rev. J. B. Mayor, in the second volume of his edition of Richard of Cirencester's genuine "Speculum Historiale," published in 1869.

We hear nowadays of curious instances of longevity, and corresponding activity, but we doubt whether any register of this century will contain what is to be seen at St. Bridget's Church, in Chester, where we read of Mr. George Harding, aged 107, being united to Mrs. Woodward, eighty-three years old. A very large congregation witnessed the ceremony. The bridegroom served in Queen Anne's army, and also under George I. and II. This lady was his fifth wife, he having married his fourth bride at 105 years of age; and Mrs. Woodward had three husbands before Mr. Harding. As a triumph for vegetarians, it was stated that the hale old gentleman had, for the last thirty years, chiefly lived on butter-milk and flour, bread, and cheese.

The poor "poorer classes" seem to be always "catching it": from him that hath not is to be taken away that which he hath. A gentleman recommends that "the poorer classes, who notably keep the dogs from which the waifs and strays in the streets are recruited," and who have "without doubt," he says, been constrained by the late police order "to confine their pets to the house or back-yard," should be carefully looked up by collectors of the dog tax by means of a "house-to-house visitation," and maintains that "a strict enforcement of the tax would remove all dogs from this class of people." Perhaps so, and no doubt taxes should be enforced; but it were almost as great a sin to deprive a poor man of his dog as "to rob a poor man of his beer," or to take his ewe lamb, as in Nathan's parable. Hydrophobia, again, is an awful disease, and should be stamped out, if possible; but is it quite certain that the poor man's dog, "badly fed," no doubt, is also "neglected," and, when the police order is withdrawn, will issue from the "cellar of many a back slum," more than ever "likely to be infected with disease," and to disseminate it? Rabies, if what we read is not mere invention, appears to be more frequent among expensively kept hounds than among any other dogs, and quite as frequent among the costly retrievers and other large dogs that the poor man could not keep—even on short commons—as among the "curs" of the "poorer classes." By all means let us guard against hydrophobia, and by all means let us collect our taxes; but do not let us be harder upon the "poorer classes" than upon the richer. Probably some of us, in these days of panic, would be none the worse for reading Goldsmith's poem, "The Mad Dog," and learning how "The man recovered from the bite, the dog it was that died."

A pretty controversy, on a great and old-fashioned subject, has been revived recently by Mr. Courthope and Mr. Lang. Are Dryden and Pope simply the greatest of versemen, or do they possess that divine and unpurchasable gift of poetry by which poets like Shakspeare and Milton, Wordsworth and Tennyson, take our spirits captive? There is rhetoric in verse as well as in prose, and a man may have an imaginative intellect and a splendid mastery over rhyme without that far rarer creative power which we all feel but can never describe. That Dryden was a consummate rhetorician will not be disputed, any more than the subtle craft and wit of Pope can be disputed; but have these illustrious writers no qualities more distinctly poetical? We think they have; or why is it that some of their lines haunt the memory and soothe the ear? Not, indeed, like the most inspired utterances of Milton, Shelley, or Keats—in which we find

All the chosen coin of fancy
Flashing out from many a golden phrase—

but yet with a power to which we are forced to bow, and with an art that fulfils, at least, one well-known definition of poetry—the best words in the best places. Mr. Lang calls Dryden and Pope "poets with a difference." So be it: but must we give up Horace, because he is not Homer; or Dryden, because he has not the luxuriant imagination of Spenser?

The president of the English Church Union announces that at the meeting of the council in February, it will be proposed to draw up a memorial to lay before the Episcopate, setting forth the Church reforms which they are anxious to see carried out; also they would repudiate the authority of the Privy Council and the Courts subject to it, pressing the necessity of celebration of Holy Communion every Sunday, and festival churches left open; episcopal instructions as to the observance of fasting and abstinence; preventing any clergyman remarrying divorced persons; and other points which the E. C. U. feel strongly upon.

How wise our children must be! The contrast between them and their fathers is, indeed, too painful to dwell upon. This is the month in which educational works are the most widely advertised, and looking down the list is not a pleasing occupation to men who have reached the age of fifty. Or let them take up the matriculation papers of the London University, and see how many of the questions they can answer offhand, or how many of the sentences from Greek, Latin, German, and French authors they can translate. And perhaps they will not be more successful in the comprehension of Sanscrit, which is one of the subjects in which ambitious pupils may be examined. Paterfamilias, however, may console himself by thinking that a good many of his son's marks, if he win them, will be due to a private tutor and to "cram"; and he may also quote, for his comfort, the poet's judgment, that

Knowledge and wisdom, far from being one,
Have oft-times no connection.

Mr. Ruskin's "Præterita," of which seven numbers are now published, bids fair to be one of the most interesting autobiographies in existence. Literature of this kind depends for its charm upon thorough sincerity and frankness, and Mr. Ruskin, in telling of his early days—for in the current number of the story he has not reached manhood—has no false pride, and, apparently, no reserve. Gibbon, in the famous narrative of his life, writes in well-measured sentences, which seem to proclaim upon every page that he is making a book; but Mr. Ruskin, though one of the most eloquent of English authors, knows instinctively where eloquence would be out of place, and is content with relating the simple incidents of his youthful years in the plainest language. His style is as unpretentious as his mother's housekeeping, or as the City office in which his father carried on a lucrative trade as a wine merchant. But the father's wine was pure, and so is his son's English.

The necessities of the Exchequer and the ingenuity of the tax-gatherer are generally displayed in inverse proportion. Just now, there is a very decided need for all the money which can be scraped together. The badness of trade and the progress of temperance alike perplex the Chancellor of the Exchequer, so that we are not surprised when we hear that pretensions which have hitherto been allowed to remain dormant are suddenly urged with insistence, and not always with due regard to common-sense. For example, there has been a practice in the Universities of both Oxford and Cambridge for each college to employ one of its servants to deliver letters within the limits of the Vice-Chancellor's jurisdiction. Such letters are practically business notices, chiefly appointments asked for by students and arranged by tutors, meetings of the various University bodies, boating and cricket club notices; and to deliver these the Heads of Houses permit what is done in every private household, or by those in London who make use of the Corps of Commissionaires. The Post Office, however, declares that this private delivery is an infringement of its monopoly, and insists upon its being put an end to—offering in exchange one additional delivery per diem! The colleges very naturally refuse; and there is a very fair prospect of a long and tedious lawsuit, which will cost thousands of pounds, and, whatever its result, expose the executive to a very considerable amount of satire and censure—without putting a stop to the obnoxious practice.

The Prince of Monaco is no longer autocrat of the tiniest territory in Europe. Not that the ruler of that picturesque place has been deposed, but there has sprung up a new State much more limited in area than that over which he reigns; in fact, the new kingdom, or empire, or republic, or whatever it may be, is the smallest in the world, being only large enough to play cricket in. Its dimensions are 960 ft. by 400 ft., and its independence arose, according to a report from Dresden, in this manner: There is a plot of land near Dettensee, between Prussia and Saxony; its owner has been applied to by the authorities of each of these countries for payment of taxes; and he, naturally desiring not to pay them to the wrong party, demanded an investigation into their relative rights; and, accordingly, a Commission was appointed to report on the important subject. These International Commissioners could not agree, a war between the nations was hardly considered advisable, and the result is that the owner has been left in possession of his tract of country, paying taxes to nobody, and with no Sovereign but himself to answer to. Whether he will crown himself King, declare himself Emperor, and confer titles on his subject, should he have one—he could not accommodate many more than one—or whether he will become President of a Republic of his own servants, is a moot point at present; but that his position is unique, if not powerful, must be admitted.

The prodigious collection of parodies brought together by Mr. Walter Hamilton (Reeves and Turner) affords means of determining the comparative liability to parody of English and American authors. As might be expected, the determining motive to the parodist is rather the facility of the task than the merit or celebrity of the poem. No piece has been parodied so frequently as Miss Anne Taylor's "My Mother," itself imitated from Cowper. On this ninety-nine parodists have tried their hands. Poe's "Raven" has been parodied fifty-eight times; "Excelsior," forty-seven; "To be or not to be?" sixty-four; the "Seven Ages," thirty-seven; "The Charge of the Light Brigade," twenty-four; "The Song of the Shirt," forty-two. Tennyson appears to have been much more frequently parodied than any other poet, probably from the great development—we cannot say improvement—that the art of parody has received in his time from the institution of comic journals. Longfellow, Poe, and Hood tread hard upon his heels for the same reason. Mr. Hamilton's volumes do not include the parodies which burlesque the general style of the author instead of particular pieces—a task requiring higher intellectual power than mere verbal perversion, and of which Mr. Calverley and Mr. Pollock have given most admirable specimens.

There is always much interest felt in the reception of a Jew or Jewess of ripe years into the Christian Church; but an unusually large congregation filled Holy Trinity, East-bourne, last week, to witness the baptism of an adult Jewess. The Rev. A. Bathurst officiated. A baptistry had been constructed in the porch, so that the ceremony of immersion could be performed; it being the desire of the convert to Christianity that it should be so.

An interesting document has recently been brought to light, being nothing less than the pleadings of M. de Robespierre in his first important cause before the Court of Appeal at Arras in 1783. A certain M. de Vissery had caused to be erected on the roof of his house a lightning-conductor, then a very recent invention. The neighbours at once petitioned the Municipal Council of St. Omer to have it removed, describing it as "une machine infernale" which threatened their lives and houses. Judgment was given against M. de Vissery by the magistrates of his town, and he thereupon appealed, entrusting his case to Robespierre, who, in spite of the opposition of the Avocat-Général, reversed the decree of the St. Omer magistrates, and ordered the lightning-conductor to be replaced. It may be added that M. de Robespierre (as he was then styled) introduced into his speech a warm eulogium of Louis XVI.

Cricket being "out" just now, attention has been drawn to curiosities of the past season. Among them may be included the following obituary notice:—"Killed on the spot, by a cricket-ball, hit hard along the ground, on July 1, 1885, during the practice at Loretto, a large rat, as it was coming out of its hole on the edge of the turf. Inquisitive or intrusive rodents will be pleased to accept of this intimation."

The Inland Revenue Department, it seems, is determined not to be distanced by the Post Office in its zeal for the public Exchequer, even at the risk of losing its character for common-sense. Under last year's Budget, it was enacted that the profits of corporate bodies were to be held liable to income tax; and, long ago, the law decided that clubs were corporate bodies—argal, their profits are now taxable. Unfortunately, the demi-gods of Somerset House, before launching their thunderbolts wildly about Pall-mall and St. James-street, omitted to ascertain whether clubs ever did or could make profits. General experience is, that they make losses, and heap up debts, which, from time to time, have to be paid off by "whips." Some years ago (times have changed since then) it was rumoured that one club—the Union, we believe—had actually laid by and funded certain profits; but the idea was so preposterous that it met with few believers. All doubts were finally dissipated when it was given out that the club in question was about to launch out into a large purchase of new furniture; and since then, nothing has been heard of its surplus profits.

Is weak brandy-and-water an alcoholic drink? The question arises out of a controversy between certain manufacturers and the authorities of Somerset House; the former guaranteeing certain "temperance wines" to be "free from alcohol," the latter declaring them to contain from 17 to 19 per cent of alcohol. Possibly anything "under proof" is "free of alcohol" to certain temperance societies; which will explain many apparent anomalies.

NEW TOWNHALL, DURBAN.

The town of Durban, the commercial seaport of Natal, South Africa, has "reached the age of architecture," as the *Natal Mercury* says in its grand special number of Oct. 28, which contains an eloquent history of that spirited colonial municipality and of the earlier preceding settlement, with portraits of its twelve Mayors since 1854, views of the town at different periods, and a description of the stately new Townhall. The population of Durban now rather exceeds 17,000, of whom more than half are Europeans; the property in the borough is valued at £1,769,000, and the annual revenue of the Corporation is £26,000. The harbour works, the town water-works, and the railway towards Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Natal, have been carried on with great enterprise. The building of the Townhall was resolved upon four years ago, when Mr. W. Arbuckle was Mayor, and has been continued under the successive Mayoralties of Mr. H. W. Currie and Mr. J. W. Stranack. The Governor of Natal, Sir Henry Bulwer, laid the foundation-stone on Feb. 1, 1883. The architect was Mr. P. W. Dudgeon, of Durban, and the contractors Mr. H. W. Hill and Mr. T. Drew. The Townhall stands in the west corner of the Market-square, facing the town gardens. The style of architecture is classical. It has a frontage to West-street of 206 ft., and a depth of 270 ft., looking to Gardiner-street on the west side and Church-street on the east, the back facing the Market-house and main railway station. The edifice is faced in front with a handsome portico, supported on six columns, having Corinthian capitals, and surmounted by a pediment, which will be filled with a sculptured allegorical design. The interior is well arranged, containing a public hall, 108 ft. long by 55 ft. wide, and 48 ft. high, with seating-room for a thousand persons, and with a gallery of ornamental ironwork, supported by fluted iron columns, on three sides; the Council Chamber, the Mayor's Parlour, the Borough Police Court, and the offices for the Town Clerk and for each department of municipal business, for the Chamber of Commerce and for the Eastern Telegraph Company, are commodiously designed. The whole length of the north side is occupied by the Durban Museum. The tower, rising to a height of 165 ft., contains a clock with striking bells and chimes, made by Messrs. Gillett, of Croydon, England. The opening ceremony, on Oct. 28, was attended with a street procession, a concert, a ball, a display of fireworks, and other festivities, which passed off very well.

Lord Tredegar has promised to give his interest in the site and £500 towards the building of the Missions to Seamen Church and Institute at Newport, Monmouthshire.

The return of the Registrar-General shows that in London 2653 births and 1784 deaths were registered during last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 412 and the deaths 83 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 49 from measles, 6 from scarlet fever, 21 from diphtheria, 118 from whooping-cough, 14 from enteric fever, 2 from ill-defined forms of continued fever, 17 from diarrhoea and dysentery, and not one either from smallpox, typhus, or cholera.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The announcement that her Majesty will, on Thursday afternoon next, proceed in regal state from Buckingham Palace to the House of Lords to open the eleventh Parliament of the Queen's reign has been hailed with pleasure. The reappearance of her Majesty on the throne in the gilded Chamber of Peers will unquestionably delight the public, and invest with *éclat* the opening of the business proper of the Session. To the genial young nobleman who has lately succeeded his honoured father as Duke of Abercorn, a special friend of the Prince of Wales, will fall the lot of moving the Address of the Lords in reply to the Queen's Speech, and the Earl of Scarborough will be the seconder. In the House of Commons, the same duties will be discharged by Viscount Curzon, M.P. for South Bucks, and Mr. W. H. Houldsworth, M.P. for North-West Manchester.

In every respect according to precedent were the preliminaries to the opening of Parliament conducted on Tuesday last. Yeomen of the Guard (whose history is well told by Mr. Thomas Preston, in a handsomely illustrated volume just published by Harrison, of Pall-mall) duly searched the vaults beneath the Houses of Parliament, but failed to find either Guy Fawkes or powder. Each approach and door were closely watched by a picked force of Superintendent Denning's most genial and vigilant guardians in blue. Long before noon, members began to gather in the Lower House to secure seats by putting their hats on the benches. Mr. W. Blake distinguishing himself by being the earliest to arrive. By one o'clock, quite a hearty chorus of "How are you?" rose from the floor, which grew crowded with new and old members cordially shaking hands. It was notable that not even the ruddy and genial ex-Lord Mayor, Sir Robert Fowler, received so warm or so general a greeting as did Mr. Joseph Arch, who, with a smile on his intelligent bearded face, and in a grey tweed coat, looked the picture of a sturdy, manly, English yeoman. It was, indeed, almost a triumphal progress which the steadfast champion of the agricultural labourers made from the door to the table. Similarly beaming were Mr. Chamberlain (smilingly complacent as he answered the greeting of this and that member), Sir William Harcourt, the venerable Mr. Villiers, Mr. Stansfeld, Colonel Sir J. M'Garel Hogg, Mr. Bradlaugh (who took a seat on the Parnellite bench), Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Harry Lawson, and, among many other new comers, Mr. Howard Vincent, who placed his hat on the second bench behind Ministers with the adroitness of an old member. Mr. Vincent manifestly intends to come to the front.

It may have been mere chance, though it was regarded as significant by some, that Mr. Gladstone somehow did not notice the lithe figure of Mr. Chamberlain hovering near the front Opposition bench, but beckoned to the Marquis of Hartington (looking ruddier than a cherry as compared with the white face of his chief) to come and sit next him, and engaged in an animated conversation with the noble Lord. It was also observed that Mr. Goschen resumed his place among ex-Ministers on the front Opposition bench. Easily slipping into his old post of Liberal "whip," Lord R. Grosvenor presently passed from the side of Mr. Gladstone to the Treasury bench to consult Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, as Leader of the House, probably with respect to the form of procedure. In fine, in complete accordance with the best traditions of the House as to courtesy and consideration were all the proceedings.

The new and particularly capable Serjeant-at-Arms, Mr. Henry David Erskine, facilitated the task of the venerable "Black Rod," Admiral Sir J. R. Drummond, in advancing, making the stereotyped three bows to the table, through the thick ranks of members, to invite the attendance of the House in "another place," an invitation followed by the usual backward walk, successfully achieved by the gallant Admiral, who was closely followed—not too closely, but just closely enough—by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. W. H. Smith, Lord John Manners, Sir Richard Cross, and other Ministers. In the House of Lords, where there was a sparse attendance, Lord Halsbury, as Lord Chancellor, was spokesman for his brother Royal Commissioners, the Earl of Idlesleigh, Lord Cranbrook, the Earl of Coventry, and Lord Barrington; and his Lordship instructed the Commoners at the bar to return to their House to choose a Speaker, and then to be sworn-in, before they could be in a position to hear the Queen's Speech.

Mr. Arthur Peel was, accordingly, re-elected unanimously as Speaker, the well-deserved tributes earnestly and eloquently paid to his previous fairness and impartiality, signal courage, firmness, and decision, by Sir John T. Mowbray as his proposer, Mr. John Bright as his seconder, and by Sir M. H. Beach and Mr. Gladstone in congratulating the right hon. member on his re-election, being barely qualified by Mr. Justin M'Carthy's mild objection, as an Irish member, to the language of "unmitigated eulogy," as he termed it, used towards Mr. Peel. The manly nature of Mr. Arthur Peel's terse speech of thanks, and the ringing tone in which the most impressive passages were delivered, amply justified Sir John Mowbray's emphatic and warmly applauded declaration that—

There is not at the present moment within these walls any other man so pre-eminently qualified to guide and direct our deliberations, to maintain our privileges, and to hand down unsullied to posterity all those lofty traditions which have ever appertained to the unique position of the Speaker of the House of Commons (loud cheers).

The Speaker and a cluster of members proceeded on Wednesday to the bar of the House of Lords, where the right hon. gentleman learnt from the Lord Chancellor that the Queen "does most readily approve and confirm" the appointment. Hardly had Mr. Peel returned to the House of Commons, taken the oath, and subscribed his name to the roll, than he was called upon to give immediate proof of his characteristic vigour and firmness and decision. The Speaker cut the Gordian knot of the Bradlaugh difficulty in a twinkling. With exemplary clearness, Mr. Peel informed the House that he was in receipt of a long historical letter from Sir Michael Hicks-Beach respecting the ineligibility of Mr. Bradlaugh to take the oath in the past Parliament, besides other communications, adding that the Leader of the House begged that Mr. Bradlaugh should not be permitted now to go through a form which the House, were it constituted, would decline to sanction. The Speaker ruled that he had "no right, original or delegated, to interfere between an hon. member and his taking the oath," and decided "it would neither be my duty to prohibit the hon. gentleman coming to the table, nor would it be my duty to permit a motion which would stand between him and the oath." The hon. gentleman takes the oath under whatever risks may attach to him in a court of law. It is not for me—I respectfully say, it is not for the House—to enter into any inquisition as to what may be the opinions of a member when he comes to the table to take the oath." Upon Mr. Bradlaugh presenting himself at the table, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach rose to protest, but was declared out of order by the Speaker, who allowed the senior member for Northampton (to the evident satisfaction of his colleague, Mr. Henry Labouchere) to take the oath of allegiance and to sign his name on the list of members.

PANTOMIME SKETCHES.

No wonder the snow and frost chilled not the ardour of the devoted subjects of King Pantomime, whose mantle is worn right royally by Mr. Augustus Harris, of Drury-Lane Theatre. Albeit the suburbs have been more or less white with snow for a week and more, this great playhouse has been thronged by the large classes of theatre-goers who delight in sumptuous pageantry and brilliant spectacle. In these attractive qualities the remarkably resplendent and magnificent pantomime of "Aladdin" at Drury-Lane can seldom or never have been surpassed. Acknowledged master of the art of stage discipline, Mr. Augustus Harris, aided by his brother, Mr. Charles Harris, must be credited with having eclipsed past efforts in the alluring and seductive scene, the Dream of Fair Women. Framed in one of the most enchanting tableaux the genius of Mr. William Beverley has ever devised, a gorgeous and interesting procession of historic beauties, comprising Helen of Troy, Cleopatra, Théodora, Semiramis, Fair Rosamond, Nell Gwynne, and Gainsborough's Duchess of Devonshire, is crowned by a glittering and variegated ballet, of which the agile Queen is Mdle. Zanfretta, and of which the accomplished choreographic mistress is Madame Katti Lanner. From a dismal swamp (in which the nimble and clever young pantomimist, Mr. Charles Lauri the younger, indulges in an astonishing series of dives and trap-springs as Kazarac), there rises Aladdin's Fairy Palace, built like magic by an industrious band of British artisans, represented, with characteristic vivacity, by Katti Lanner's lively lads and lasses, whose manoeuvres never fail to afford pleasure. The leading characters in "Aladdin" are faithfully delineated in our page of sketches. Miss Grace Huntley, as a sparkling and comely Aladdin, is mated to a duly pretty and seductive Princess in captivating Miss Kate Leamar, whose charming sister dashingly enacts another conspicuous part—that of Widow Twankay's servant. The Widow Twankay herself is personated with quaint fun and humour by Mr. Harry Nicholls, who is limned singing the customary duet, called "As Usual" this year, with Mr. Herbert Campbell, the Abanazar, whose persecution of Aladdin forms the backbone of the fascinating "Arabian Nights" story so grandly embellished at Drury-Lane. "Aladdin" is fortunate, indeed, to have so graceful and bewitching a lady as Miss Nellie Bennett as the fair Genius of the lamp. It is unnecessary to add that the king of clowns, Mr. Harry Payne, maintains the fun of the harlequinade to the end. But it would be unfair to withhold a hearty vote of thanks from Mr. Oscar Barrett, who furnishes the melodious musical accompaniments to "Aladdin."

Mr. F. C. Burnand's charming new version of "Cinderella," charmingly produced by Mr. Augustus Harris, has delighted many thousands at the vast theatre in the central transept of the Crystal Palace. A few of the principal characters in this admirable pantomime are also sketched by our Artist. Deservedly most prominent are Misses Dot and Minnie Mario, who make, respectively, the daintiest and prettiest of Cinderellas and the handsomest of Princes. Never has there been a more tastefully brilliant ball-room scene than that which is the culminating point of splendour in the Crystal Palace, whereof Mr. John D'Aubon is also the life and soul, his comic dance with Miss Emma D'Aubon, the light and graceful Fairy Godmother, being one of the most grotesque and popular features in "Cinderella." That the fun is fast and furious in the Harlequinade will be taken for granted when it is stated that the Paul Martinetti troupe figure as clown and pantaloone, harlequin and columbine.

The Armourers' and Braziers' Company, at a recent court, granted donations, amounting in the aggregate to £325, to a number of charitable and philanthropic institutions.

The *Standard* of Wednesday says:—"The public will learn, with sincere regret, but without surprise, that it is the intention of Lord Carnarvon to retire at the end of the present month from the office of Viceroy."

The British Government has formally recognised Spanish sovereignty over the Caroline and Pelew Archipelago, Spain granting to England all those commercial advantages in the islands which have been conceded to Germany.

At Cambridge on Monday, Dr. Ferrers, Master at Caius College, vacated the office of Vice-Chancellor of the University, and was succeeded by Dr. Swainson, Master of Christ's College.

At the meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute at St. James's Hall, on Tuesday, a paper was read by Mr. J. G. Colmer, the secretary to the High Commissioner for Canada, on the recent and prospective development of the Dominion.

Steamers arrived at Liverpool last week with live stock and fresh meat on board from the United States and Canada, bringing a collective supply of 363 cattle, 451 sheep, 9628 quarters of beef, and 567 carcasses of mutton.

The Executive Council of the American Exhibition to be held in London have decided to change the date of opening from May 1 this year to May 2 next year. The main reason for making this change is to avoid even the appearance of competition with the Colonial and Indian Exhibition.

In connection with the movement started by the London School Board for establishing evening classes in the metropolis, sixty-eight classes for male pupils and forty-four for female pupils were opened in the first term of the present session, and 10,000 pupils have been enrolled since October last.

A meeting of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union was held in Dublin on the 8th inst., the Earl of Longford presiding. Major Sanderson, M.P., Lord De Vesci, the Provost of Trinity College, and others addressed the meeting, and it was resolved to establish branches of the league, with the object of maintaining the legislative union of Great Britain and Ireland, the co-operation of all Loyalists, irrespective of creed or party, being invited.

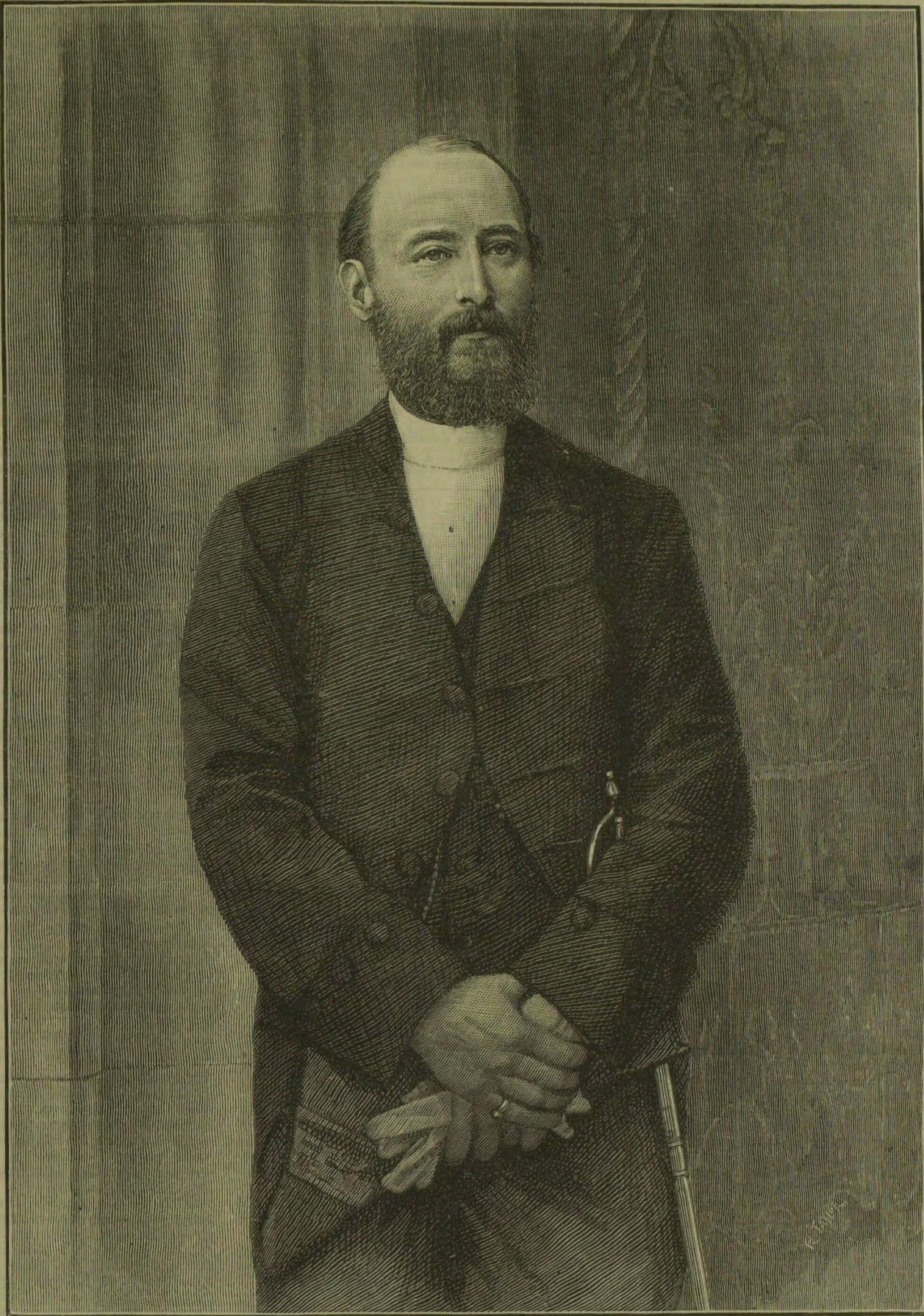
The Prince of Wales presided at Marlborough House on Tuesday at a general meeting of the council of the Gordon Boys' Home, which was attended by the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Napier of Magdala, with a large attendance of members. Lord Napier of Magdala brought up the report of the committee, and explained that the work which was at present carried on in Fort Wallington was progressing satisfactorily. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and General Higginson addressed the meeting, and it was resolved to make further efforts to obtain funds to develop the institution.

A return just issued by Mr. Giffen, of the Board of Trade, shows that during last year there was a considerable decrease in the emigration from this country in comparison with that which took place in the year preceding. The total number of emigrants from the United Kingdom to countries beyond Europe last year was 264,986, as against 303,901 in 1884. To the United States there emigrated last year 184,540 persons; to British North America, 22,938; to Australasia, 41,212; and to all other places, 16,296. In each of these cases there was a substantial decrease in emigration, particularly to British North America, compared with that of the year before.



THE NEW SERJEANT- AT-ARMS.

The opening of the New Parliament this week finds the new Serjeant-at-Arms, Mr. Henry David Erskine, performing, with much courtesy, tact, and judgment, the duties of that post from which the late Captain Sir Ralph Gossett retired towards the close of the last Session of the deceased Parliament. Mr. H. D. Erskine, of Cardross, Perthshire, eldest son of the late Mr. James Erskine, of that place, belonging to an ancient family of the Scottish gentry, was born in 1838, was educated at Harrow, and was formerly a Captain in the Scots Guards. He held an office in the Royal Household, being Groom of the Robes to her Majesty, previously to his appointment, under Captain Gossett, as Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms; and, having frequently officiated in the place of his chief—notably upon the occasion when orders were given for the removal of Mr. Bradlaugh, and their execution by force was unhappily resisted in a disagreeable manner—the conduct of Mr. Erskine has always deserved the approval of the House. It seemed therefore a matter of course that he should be appointed to succeed Captain Gossett as Serjeant-at-Arms before the termination of the last Session. This office is one of high dignity and importance; the Serjeant-at-Arms, with his Deputy and subordinate assistants, is charged not merely with the protection of the House from intrusion and disturbance, but with the execution of its orders, and with the conduct of ceremonial observances under the Speaker's authority; he occupies a chair below the Bar, and has to keep order in the House and in the



THE OPENING OF PARLIAMENT: MR. H. D. ERSKINE, THE NEW SERJEANT-AT-ARMS.

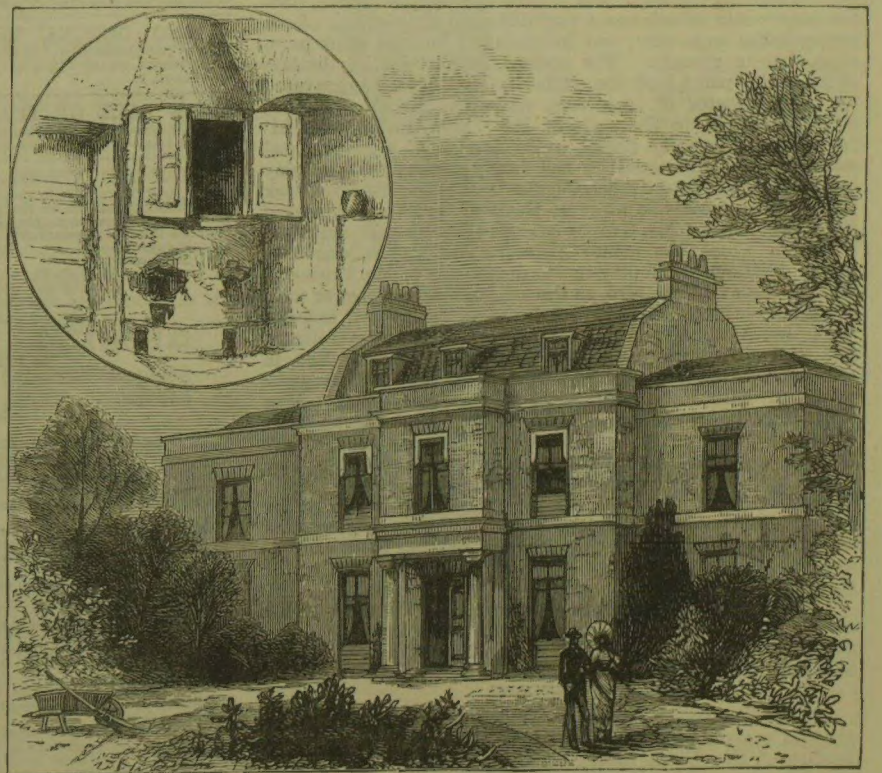
lobbies and corridors and committee-rooms. In case of any person, whether a member of the House or an offender against its privileges from outside, being ordered to be arrested and kept in custody, it is the Serjeant-at-Arms who has to perform this service, and to imprison the delinquent, perhaps for weeks, in apartments belonging to him in the Palace of Westminster. Mr. Erskine is a gentleman who will do his duty, in any case, with firmness and with no less discretion, politeness, and good temper; and will prove that the confidence of the House in his personal qualities is fully justified. He is a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant for the counties of Perth and Stirling. He married, in 1861, Lady Horatia Elizabeth, second daughter of the fifth Marquis of Hertford, and has a son, twenty-three years of age.

On Monday last the various law courts reassembled after the Christmas vacation.

There was a narrow escape of a serious disaster in Regent's Park last Saturday afternoon. Despite the warnings of the authorities as to the dangerous condition of the ice, a large number of skaters and sliders ventured on the ornamental waters. After a time the ice broke near the large island and the boat-house bridge, opposite Hanover-terrace, and many persons were immersed. At two other places the ice also gave way, causing several immersions. That no lives were lost is due to the fact that the depth of the lake was lessened to three feet six inches after the accident nineteen years ago, when forty persons were drowned. Ice accidents are reported from the country. At Leicester four persons were drowned.



NEW TOWNHALL, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA.



JOHN HUNTER'S HOUSE AT EARL'S-COURT.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

Mr. Joseph Derrick has, as most people will think, unadvisedly left the regions of farce for sentiment. "Confusion" was a capital play, that well suited the theatre at which it was produced and the company for which it was designed; but "The Plebeians" is neither honest comedy nor genuine farce. It hovers undecidedly between seriousness and fun. Its solemn moments are as unreal as its humour is strained. With the exception of Miss Kate Rorke—who has, on several occasions, done very well in high comedy—there is really no one in the Vaudeville company that should tempt a funny author away from the realms of comicality. Mr. Thomas Thorne is notoriously more at his ease where humour is concerned, than where it is necessary to put on the pathetic stop. What has Miss Kate Phillips to do with mild drawing-room sentiment? Mr. Charles Groves and Mr. Frederick Thorne are valuable names where honest legitimate fun are concerned. Again and again, it has been proved that the brighter and wittier the play produced at the little Vaudeville, the better it will be appreciated. The extraordinary enthusiasm displayed over the first production of "The Plebeians" was a matter of astonishment to the dispassionate reviewer of plays. There was nothing very new in the comedy, and uncommonly little that was true. And yet the applause was so demonstrative that one might have imagined another Sheridan had arisen. The author was called for after the second act, that had contained little interest and sparse humour; and at the conclusion Mr. Thorne asked for a verdict, and secured one almost unanimously in favour of the new play. It may be that, after recent disturbances, the audience went out of their way to behave prettily. It is possible all present were determined to show how well they could conduct themselves. If so, Mr. Derrick, Mr. Thorne, and all concerned have reason to congratulate themselves on the now famous night with Mr. Barrymore at the Haymarket—never did uninteresting play receive such a courteous hearing; never was tedium so dissipated by applause; never were nervous actors so persistently encouraged. All this is well. The improvement is on the right side; and when audiences are unanimous, their unanimity is as wonderful as that of Mr. Puff's stage crowds, in "The Critic." If it be true that comedy should be a certain reflex of life in the age in which we live, then it cannot be said that Mr. Derrick has obeyed that canon of his art. At any rate, it will be news to some of us that, at this period of the nineteenth century, brewers at Brixton, or millionaire money-lenders, are in the habit of bribing pauper aristocrats to marry their daughters. A mere "honourable," the younger son of an impoverished house, confers no possible social distinction on the woman he marries. The mere title might attract a vulgar girl to a Peer or a Baronet. But our author has endeavoured to establish the position that wealthy brewers and Hebrew money-lenders are prepared to make any sacrifice for a little "blue blood." In all probability, a wealthy brewer of Brixton, if he had any pretty daughters in the marriage market, would be besieged by younger sons and impoverished noblemen. Land is not so valuable now, or incomes so large in the aristocracy that there can be any hesitation in enriching an impoverished house. Faithful servants do not cry their eyes out because their young aristocratic masters marry "beer" or "hops," or whether their wives bring them a handsome portion from Mark-lane or the Borough. Peers, and certainly the sons of Peers, would not disdain the fortunes that date from usury and blossom in Portland-place. In these circumstances, the motive of "Plebeians" is strained and unnatural. The young honourable of the new play is, in fact, no catch at all: quite the contrary. He has little to recommend him in either birth or breeding. But the comedy errs farther when it attempts to illustrate the quixotism of the hero. A young lady calls upon him and represents she is the companion or lady-help at the house in Brixton, where the hero is invited to dine. She is anxious about her lover, who is coming home from abroad, and she begs her unknown friend to interest himself on her behalf, and make inquiries about the missing ship. He does so, and discovers that the girl's lover is drowned; nay, more, that he, the hero, has inherited the lover's fortune. Bankrupt and penniless as he is, this very virtuous young man pretends that the pain of breaking the news to a girl who is a perfect stranger to him is so heartrending that he wishes the money and the fortune were at the bottom of the sea! Why, this out-Evelyns our old friend Alfred Evelyn! Even he had the excuse of loving Clara Douglas, and yet he accepted the money without a murmur. Our virtuous "honourable" is so strained in sentiment that he feels inclined to beggar himself in order that he may not even wound the feelings of a girl in whom he can take no possible interest, save that which actuates any humane man. To make the situation even probable, the pretty companion should have been the heroine of the story. It is a play virtually without a heroine at all. Both Miss Kate Rorke and Miss Maud Millett must have felt the difficulty in studying the characters of the good-natured Brixton girl and her companion. The interest was divided; consequently, it was jeopardised. Had the hero been in love with the companion all through, and the part have been made a good one all through, and intrusted to Miss Rorke, then the play would have borne a very different complexion. Both young ladies were nice, and interesting; but we want more than that in comedy. The serious interest having broken down at this point, and the difficulty having been aggravated by the character of the hero, uninteresting at best, and utterly unsuited to the style of Mr. Thorne, who, with his funny face, actually hoped to do justice to a sentimental young man, it devolved on the funny men to pull the play out of the fire. Luckily, Mr. Charles Groves and Mr. Frederick Thorne were present to attempt the feat, and they succeeded remarkably well. Mr. Groves gave us still another sketch of a modern Moses, the money-lender of the modern drawing-room. He helped the play in its direst need. Mr. Frederick Thorne was excellent, also, as the vulgar Brixton brewer with capacious pockets and a warm heart. Variety and interest were added by Mr. W. Lestocq, who played the faithful and pathetic old servant with considerable skill. But, in a theatre devoted to comedy, it was sad to see the great talent of Miss Kate Phillips so deplorably wasted. Now that Mrs. Bancroft has left the stage, we have no such comedy actress on it as Miss Kate Phillips, and yet she is kept year after year playing insignificant characters, on which her skill is wholly wasted. The stage is not so rich in actresses that it can afford to spare the comic Miss Phillips and the interesting Miss Rorke to play the uninteresting daughters of Jewish money-lenders and Brixton brewers. The one has humour, the other pathos. Cannot authors utilise such gifts?

At the French plays the new comedy, "La Doctoresse," has made a genuine success. Everyone who likes amusing acting should see Marie Magnier as the "Lady Doctor," and M. Noblet as her henpecked spouse.

"The Theatre" for this month contains a capital photographic portrait of its able editor, Mr. Clement Scott, and another of Miss Lydia Thompson.

MARRIAGE.

On Nov. 19, 1885, at St. Michael's Church, Christchurch, New Zealand, by the Most Rev. the Primate of New Zealand, Edward Wingfield, son of the Rev. Henry Hamner, Rector of Grendon, Warwickshire, to Catherine, daughter of Humphrey, son of the late Rev. John Hamner, Vicar of Hamner.

DEATH.

On the 7th inst., at Oakhurst, Ealing, Middlesex, Grace Caroline, beloved wife of Francis Hicks (late of the Regent's Park and Plymouth, Devon), and second daughter of the late James Black, of Buenos Ayres and Entre Rios, S.A., lamented and mourned by all who knew her.

* * * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

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TITLEPAGE AND INDEX.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING. FAUST—EVERY EVENING, at a Quarter to Eight o'clock, FAUST. Mephistopheles, Mr. Henry Irving; Martha, Mrs. Stirling; Margaret, Miss Ellen Terry. Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open from Ten to Five. Seats booked one month in advance; also by letter. Carriages at Eleven.—LYCEUM.

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ST. JAMES'S GREAT HALL.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, JAN. 26, at 2.30; TUESDAY NIGHT, JAN. 26, at 8.

MR. FREDERICK BURGESS'S TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL DAY AND NIGHT MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC FETE. TWO MAMMOTH PROGRAMMES of the most attractive and unique character will be presented. Sustained by nearly all the most eminent Dramatic Artists connected with the principal West-End Theatres, including Miss E. Furren, Miss Alice Atherton, Miss Constance Locock, Mr. James Fernandez, Mr. Fred. Leslie, Mr. Willie Edouin, Mr. Harry Paulson, Mr. Frank W. Carter, Mr. Walter Joyce, Mr. J. M. Dallas, Mr. George Barrett, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. Arthur Roberts. The magnificent Choir and Orchestra of the MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS will give an entirely new and delightful Musical Programme.

Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets and places can be secured, without extra booking fee, at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall. Persons residing at a distance from London can obtain tickets for any part of the hall if they send P.O. or cheque, together with a stamped and directed envelope, to A. Austin, St. James's Hall. Holders of Balcony and Gallery tickets, purchased before the 25th, will be admitted prior to the usual opening of the doors, thereby avoiding crowding or inconvenience.

ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS' NEW-YEAR'S ENTERTAINMENT. TRIUMPHANT BEYOND THE MOST SANGUINE EXPECTATIONS. See what the "Times," the "Daily Telegraph," the "Standard," the "Daily News," the "Daily Chronicle," the "Morning Post," and "Morning Advertiser" of Monday say about it. NEVER BEFORE has an ENTERTAINMENT RECEIVED SUCH UNQUALIFIED ENCOMIUMS from the LEADING PRESS OF LONDON. THE NEW PROGRAMME will be repeated EVERY NIGHT at Eight. MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, Thursdays, and Eight. Those truly great and inimitable Juvenile Artists, Master S. ADESON and Master C. ADESON, who created such a furore in the "Pirates of Penzance" when it was performed by the Children's Company, under the direction of Mr. D'Oyly Carte, at the Savoy Theatre, will appear at every performance. Places can be booked at Austin's Office, St. James's Hall, one month in advance. Fauteuils, 5s.; Sofa Stalls, 3s.; Balcony, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Children under twelve, half-price to all parts except the Gallery. No fees.

JAPAN IN LONDON.—Hyde Park. DAILY, from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. THE JAPANESE VILLAGE. Rebuilt on an elaborate scale. Performances Free, at Twelve, Three, and Eight. In the new Shehaya. Native and Military Bands. Admission, One Shilling. Wednesdays, Half-a-Crown; after Six 1s. Originator and Managing Director, TANNAKER BUIHROSAX.

ANNO DOMINI, THE SEARCH FOR BEAUTY, and "The Chosen Five," by EDWIN LONG, R.A. These celebrated Pictures, with other Works, are ON VIEW at the GALLERIES, 168, New Bond-street. Ten to Six. Admission, 1s.

THE VALE OF TEARS.—DORE'S Last Great PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street, with his other great pictures. Ten to Six daily. 1s.

MONTE CARLO.—THE ADMINISTRATION OF MONTE CARLO, in its endeavour to diversify the brilliant and exceptional entertainments offered to the Cosmopolitan High Life frequenting the shores of the Mediterranean during the Winter Season 1885-6, has much pleasure in announcing the following remarkable representations, for which purpose Mr. Fabian has already engaged—
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In JANUARY and APRIL will be PERFORMED—
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THE INTERNATIONAL PIGEON-SHOOTING AT MONACO, 1885-6.

GRAND INTERNATIONAL MEETING.
Saturday, Jan. 16: Grand Poule d'Essai. 2000f.
Tuesday, Jan. 19: Prix d'Ouverture. 3000f. and an object of Art.
Monday and Saturday, Jan. 22 and 23: Grand Prix du Casino. An object of Art of 5000f. and 20,000f.
Monday, Jan. 25: Prix de Monte Carlo (Grand Handicap). An object of Art and 3000f.
Thursday, Jan. 28: Prix de Consolation (Handicap). An object of Art and 1000f.
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 29 and 30: Second Universal Championship (Triennial). A good Gun and 5000f.
Besides the Stand will be opened every Monday and Friday from Jan. 10 until Feb. 25 for Pools and Matches.
Meetings will take place immediately after the GRAND CONCOURS, and be continued until March 10, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday.
Thursday and Friday, March 11 and 12: The Grand Prix de Cléve. An object of Art and 3000f., will be followed by a Third Series of Meetings until April. For full particulars, address M. A. BLONDIN, Secretary, Pigeon-Shooting, Monte Carlo.

SEA BATHING AT MONACO.

This is pursued during the Winter Season, on a sandy beach, facing the Grand Hotel des Bains.
MONTE CARLO is supplied with the following superior Hotels:—Grand Hôtel de Paris, the Grand Hôtel, the Victoria, Hôtel des Anglais, Grand Hôtel de Monte Carlo, Hôtel de Russie, Beau Rivage, &c.; and furnished villas, together with excellent apartments, are to be obtained.

MUSIC.

The Monday Popular Concerts were resumed this week, after the usual brief interval. The programme of the first performance of the year contained no absolute novelty, but was, nevertheless, of sterling and varied interest. Madame Norman-Néruda was the solo and leading violinist; Miss Fanny Davies, the solo pianist; and Mr. E. Lloyd, the vocalist. The lady violinist played, for her solo, an "Adagio" by Spohr, and Paganini's "Moto Perpetuo," the expressive rendering of the former having been strongly contrasted by the unflagging rapidity and brilliancy with which the latter was executed. Miss Fanny Davies fully maintained the highly favourable impression which she had previously made as solo pianiste. Her chief performance on Monday night was in Schumann's fine series of variations, entitled "Études Symphoniques," which were admirably given in their several phases of delicacy and grandeur. Mr. E. Lloyd sang some lieder by Dvorák, Mendelssohn, and Schubert, with finished vocalisation, and was well accompanied by Mr. C. H. Ould, Miss Davies having accompanied the violin solos. Mozart's string quartet in A major and Schubert's second pianoforte trio completed the programme.

The resumption of the London Ballad Concerts at St. James's Hall, with an afternoon performance—on the 2nd inst.—has already been mentioned. The first evening concert of the year took place this week, when the programme was of strong and varied interest.

The Sacred Harmonic Society was to give the third concert of its new season yesterday (Friday) evening, Mendelssohn's "Elijah" being the oratorio announced.

The first of this year's Saturday Afternoon Popular Concerts, at St. James's Hall, takes place this week, with a strong programme, including Beethoven's septet, led by Madame Norman-Néruda, in association with other artists of the highest eminence.

Next week's music will include a performance of Berlioz's "Faust," by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, on Wednesday; one of Madame Viard-Louis' pianoforte recitals at Prince's Hall on Thursday; and Mr. Ambrose Austin's Scotch concert at St. James's Hall on Saturday, in celebration of the Burns anniversary, which will be duly kept by one of Mr. W. Carter's National Concerts, at the Royal Albert Hall, on the following Monday.

During the past week the first annual conference of the National Society of Professional Musicians was held at the Salisbury Hotel. On the first day Mr. Ebenezer Prout presided, and he, and other well-known musicians, spoke forcibly as to the need of a corporate organisation to include all the professional musicians of this country, and to promote their interests and those of British musical art. On the second and concluding day, yesterday (Friday) week, Mr. F. H. Cowen presided, and other professors having advocated the extension of the movement; urging, especially, the necessity for more intimate association among professional musicians, and greater facilities for the study of their art; and expressing a hope that we may soon be in possession of a national opera-house, and great academies in the provinces as well as in London. It was stated that 350 members are already enrolled, and that the framework of the organisation of the association is now complete. Its future will be looked to with much interest, as being likely to further the interests of the art and of native professors thereof.

By command of the Queen, the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society will give an extra concert on Friday afternoon, Feb. 26, at three o'clock, on which occasion Gounod's "Mors et Vita" will be performed, with the same solo vocalists as at the first production of the work at Birmingham—viz., Madame Albani, Madame Patey, Mr. Edward Lloyd, and Mr. Santley.

JOHN HUNTER'S HOUSE AT EARL'S-COURT.

The great surgeon and anatomist, John Hunter, founder of the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons, and author of most valuable discoveries in the science of physiology, died in 1793. He was surgeon to St. George's Hospital, and members of his profession in London are desirous of saving, by an appeal to the public, an interesting memorial of his life, the house and grounds in Earl's-Court-road, now threatened with demolition for the making of a new street. In Hunter's life, written by the late Dr. Drewry Ottley, we read that "as many of the inquiries which he was desirous of instituting could not be carried on conveniently, if at all, in a crowded city, he purchased a piece of ground called Earl's-Court, at Brompton, about two miles from London, where he used to spend most of his time among the strange inmates congregated from all parts of the globe, engaged in observing their habits and instincts, and amusing himself in making them exert their various methods of defence against his playful attacks." The house has recently been used as a lunatic asylum, and has been considerably altered, but the grounds are probably much as they were left by Hunter, and a grassy mound covers the two circular dens where he kept his wild beasts. The visitor may remember the day when two leopards broke loose from their confinement, and were engaged in a fierce encounter with the dogs, when Hunter appeared on the scene, and, without a moment's reflection, seized both animals and chained them up in their cage. Another object of interest is the copper, which still stands in an outhouse, and in which Byrne, or O'Brien, the famous Irish giant, was boiled in 1783. Hunter wished to secure O'Brien for dissection, but the giant, wishing to evade the scalpel, arranged that after death his remains should be inclosed in a leaden coffin and buried at sea. In compliance with his directions, the undertaker engaged some men to watch the body alternately, but a bribe of £500 removed all scruples, and Hunter, placing his ghastly burden in his own carriage, conveyed it immediately to Earl's-Court. "Fearing lest a discovery should take place, Hunter did not choose to risk the delay which the ordinary method of preparing a skeleton would require. Accordingly, the body was cut to pieces, and the flesh separated by boiling; hence has arisen the brown colour of the bones," which are now deposited in the museum in Lincoln's-Inn-fields. We should be glad if the authorities of St. George's Hospital and of the Royal College of Surgeons can secure anything to perpetuate the memory of the eminent man with whom the fame and the history of both institutions must ever be associated.

Mrs. Dallas-Glyn (aptly described as being in spirit a lineal descendant of the Kembles) continues her classes in reading, elocution, and speaking in song, at her residence, No. 13, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square. She has the co-operation of other ladies for pupils desirous of taking up kindred studies.

Little Folks for this month commences a new series, and appears in a coloured wrapper with a new design by Alice Havers. An important new departure is made in this number (and will be continued) by the introduction of several novel features. The work is profusely illustrated. Its publishers are Messrs. Cassell and Co.

MISS FANNY MORRISON
AS GRANDMAMMA.MASTER VERNON FARLOW
AS EDWARD VI.

JUVENILE BALL AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

The Twelfth Night Juvenile Ball at the Mansion House is rightly deemed one of the prettiest gatherings of the whole season; and, in spite of a heavy snowstorm, and severe frost, which threatened at one time to render the roads almost impassable, more than seven hundred youthful guests had assembled in the Egyptian Hall by an early hour in the evening. The scene in the dancing-room was a most fascinating one; for many of the quaint little figures had an old-world air about them, and looked as though they had but just stepped down out of their frames in some ancestral picture-gallery.

A procession round the hall, to the inspiring strains of the "Turkish Patrol," formed a very interesting feature of the evening, each small couple pausing before the raised dais, on which the Lady Mayoress sat enthroned. Lord Mayor Staples must be especially congratulated on his kind forethought in furnishing numerous other amusements for those of his guests to whom dancing offered no attraction, even when the music was provided by the excellent band of the Coldstream



MISS URSULA SOULSBY AS A LADY OF QUALITY.

Guards. For these young people, Punch and Judy played incessantly (the happy Toby-dog being free from the obnoxious muzzle); while in another room, living marionettes disported themselves. Mr. Daniels gave frequent

banjo recitals, Nieman's Ventriloquial Minstrels went through their unique performance, and the natives of India, from Portland Hall, juggled and danced to the strains of their odd, monotonous music.

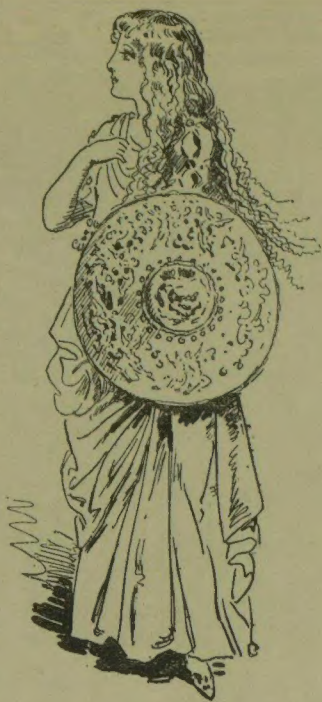
The sketches upon this page represent a few of the more striking costumes worn on this occasion, some particulars of which will, no doubt, be of interest to our readers. One of the most original dresses was that of Miss Eileen

MISS GERTRUDE HOPKINS
AS A DOCTRESS DISGUISED.

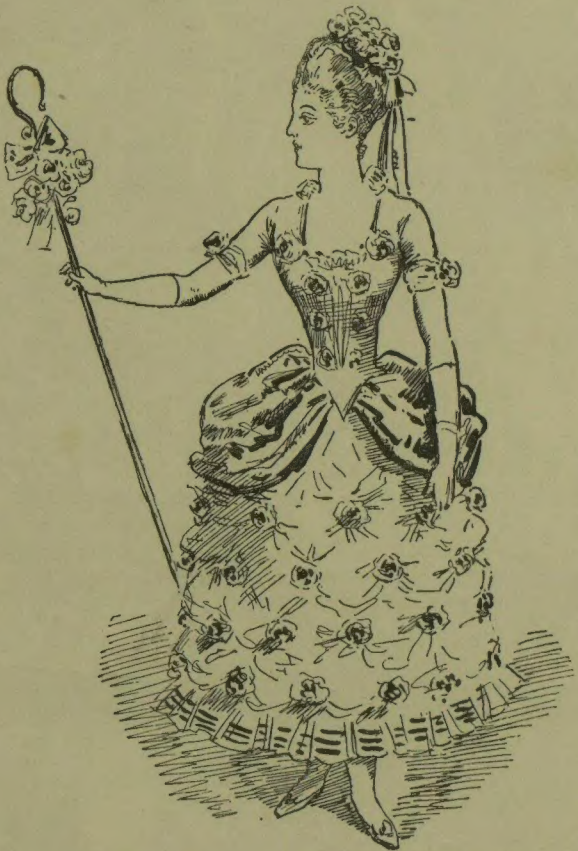
Mallard, in the character of Mercury. She carried a silver caduceus in her hand, and her whole costume was an effective combination of black and white, with a black velvet

Phrygian cap, and silvery white wings springing from her shoulders and her heels. A quaint and delightful little dress was that worn by Miss Ursula Soulsby, as a Lady of Quality. The gown itself was in cream-white brocade, with a very long train, and a Watteau plait at the back, the high pointed cap suiting the dainty little wearer to perfection. The costume of Miss Gertrude Hopkins, as a Doctress disguised, provoked much comment; some of the bystanders considered that this young lady represented a witch, while others argued that she must be either Mother Hubbard or a fortune-teller. Her dress was, however, remarkably successful, with its striking contrast of bright crimson skirt, white satin frills, black velvet sleeves, tall pointed cap, and round-eyed black spectacles.

Miss Hilda Cooper made a graceful picture, à la Watteau, in her shepherdess attire of white tulle, over which pink roses were plentifully scattered, draperies of pale blue satin being arranged on each side of the skirt. There were several young ladies who were dressed à l'Incrovable; but of these costumes, by far the most successful was that of Miss Ellen Lynch, whose long coat was made of dark blue velvet, her tricolor sash being carelessly knotted in front. Tennyson's Elaine, the Lily Maid of Astolat, found a graceful representative in Miss Violet Oakes; classic draperies of cream silk, and an elaborately carved shield, making her a pleasantly conspicuous figure in the crowd. In more than one instance, a suggestion had been taken from the works of Sir John Millais; and this notion was eminently successful in the case of Miss Fanny Morrison



MISS VIOLET OAKES AS ELAINE.



MISS HILDA COOPER AS A WATTEAU SHEPHERDESS.

whose huge white satin grandmother's bonnet framed in most becomingly the laughing dark-eyed face of the wearer. Another suggestion from a picture by the same artist was carried out with equal success by the Misses Lilian and Ethel Plumbly, who, with their long fair hair and black velvet suits, admirably represented the Princesses in the Tower.

Royal personages generally were not so plentiful as usual on these occasions, but the Sixth Edward, as represented by Master Vernon Farlow, was one of the notable figures in the room. His costume was of dark brown velvet, with a deep lace collar and frills. Miss Ethel Halse, as Moonlight, wore a classically draped costume of peacock-green cashmere, with crescent moons in silver, on her shoulders and shoes, and in her hair.

The Lyceum "Faust" seemed to have inspired many fond parents with the notion of transforming their little sons into crimson-clad Mephistos. Among the several representatives of the fiend in human guise, Master H. Davis, with his tight-fitting Dante-like scarlet hood, must be mentioned as one of the most successful. Another highly original red costume, which attracted some attention, was that of Miss Margaret Pilcher, as a poppy. Her skirt was made with alternate leaves of dark red and pale pink satin. She had a dark green bodice, and a kind of cap on her head, formed of one large silk poppy, worn stalk upwards. Of Hamlets, there were many, one tall and melancholy Prince of Denmark having exactly reproduced in his costume the familiar attire of Mr. Wilson Barrett. Able-bodied seamen and midshipmen abounded, two excellent

"Rulers of the Queen's Navée," in full uniform and an abundance of gold lace, being represented by Messrs. Charles and John Simmons.

There might also be seen the tiniest Masaniello imaginable (Master Bertie Cronbach), with a basket of fish upon his back; and a pocket edition of Mary Queen of Scots (Miss Florence Holden), who found her long velvet train quite as much as she could manage, when a smart Charles Surface, aged seven, led her gracefully forth to the dance. A miniature policeman (Master Andrew Sly), helmet on head and truncheon in hand, was a very awe-inspiring little person, and his brother (Master John Sly) was attired with equal accuracy as a fireman, even to the formidable hatchet fastened on his back. As for the barristers, their name was legion—white wigs, black robes, and briefs being seen on all sides. Then there were fairies innumerable, little Red Riding Hoods of many sorts and sizes, and a group of small Pompadour ladies, with long gowns of stiff brocade, their hair dressed high, and elaborately powdered.

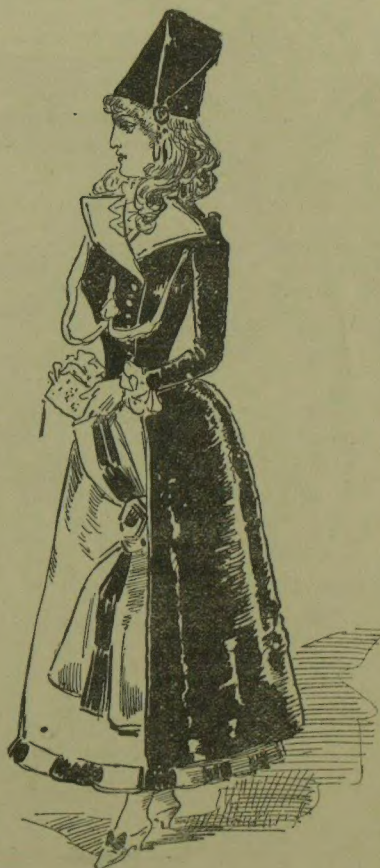
A tall, fair-haired Wasp (Miss Theodora Ellis), brilliant in black and gold, might be seen dancing with an elegant Sir Walter Raleigh; while in an opposite corner, perhaps, was Portia, conversing amiably with Robin Hood. Miss Dorothy Biddle made a charming Phyllis, in her frock of cream brocade, her shepherdess hat trimmed with pale pink roses, and her tall silver crook tied with blue ribbons. An Elizabethan Page (Master Sidney Mordaunt) looked extremely well in black, slashed with red and trimmed with gold; while a demure little Dame of the Primrose League (Miss Elsie Milman) appeared in a most Conservative costume of pale yellow, and a mob-cap adorned with primroses.

One tiny little maiden, Miss May Oakes, was very conspicuous, as a diminutive New Year. She wore a very original costume of cream satin, with a calendar for January, 1886, printed in red and black, on the front of her jacket, the date of the dance being also stamped upon her satin cap. Several costumes had been inspired by the designs of Miss Kate Greenaway, a pretty example being seen in the dress of Miss Grace Hollington, who wore a short-waisted white frock, with a terra-cotta sash, full sleeves, white mittens, and close-cropped hair. A dainty little Dresden-China gentleman was Master Frank Fraser, in whose pale mauve satin coat, white breeches and waistcoat, and daffodil stockings, the exquisitely delicate colouring of the china was most successfully repeated.

The three Misses Sayer, Ethel, Gertrude, and Fanny, being all of the same age, were dressed exactly alike, as Italian peasants, with skirts of Roman stripe, black velvet bodices, and white chemisettes. Master Percy Hencke wore a picturesque suit as a Swiss Guard, a combination of pale blue and grey, with powdered hair, and a black three-cornered hat.

Miss Maud Simmons made a dainty little Snow Queen.

Such were a few of the more conspicuous figures in the picturesque crowd at the Mansion House, which began slowly to disperse towards midnight: jockeys and jesters, fairies and fishwives, charity girls and courtiers, rapidly losing their identity, as, wrapped closely in cloaks and shawls, and common-place great-coats, they passed out of the light and warmth, into the bitter coldness of the winter night. By that time most of the children were tired and sleepy enough, ready to rest their weary heads against any friendly shoulder, during their slow and slippery drive home—dreaming, no doubt, of the glorious fairyland in which they had spent their happy Twelfth Night, and looking forward, with hopeful light-heartedness, to this time next year.

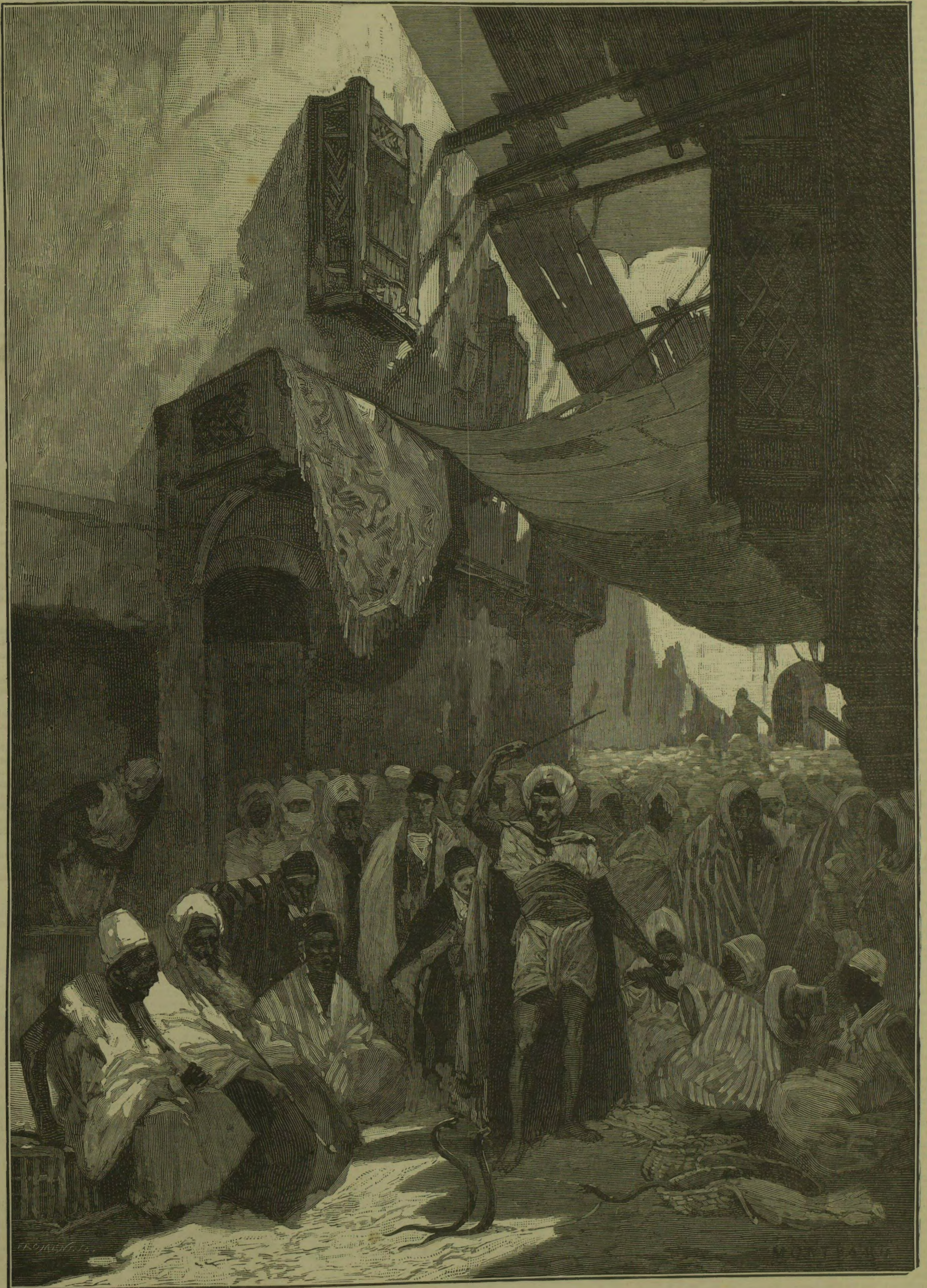
MISS ELLEN LYNCH
AS AN "INCROVABLE."

wondering, meanwhile, what characters they shall assume if only they are so fortunate as to be invited once again to the Juvenile Ball at the Mansion House.

M. A.



THE EXPEDITION TO UPPER BURMAH: THE 2ND AND 11TH BENGAL LIGHT INFANTRY STORMING THE REDOUBT OF MINH LA.
FACSIMILE OF A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. MELTON PRIOR.



PERFORMING SNAKE-CHARMERS AT CAIRO.

THE EXPEDITION TO BURMAH.

We are indebted to Mrs. Sladen, wife of the distinguished officer whose political and diplomatic services, during his sojourn at Mandalay, have much facilitated the recent action of the British Government in Upper Burma, for an authentic portrait of King Theebaw, a photograph given by his Majesty to Colonel Sladen, with whom personally he has always been on friendly terms. Theebaw Min, now deposed and removed to Madras, is about twenty-eight years of age, and was the eleventh King of the Alaungpra dynasty, founded by a conquering warrior of that name who died in 1760, and who subdued the greater part of the countries and nations formerly comprised in the Burmese Empire. The predecessor of Theebaw was King Min-don-Ming, one of whose numerous wives, Mee-bayah, a half-bred woman of the Shan tribes, gave birth to this son; but there are strong doubts of his legitimacy, as she was disgraced, about that time, for a criminal intrigue with a Pohngye, or Buddhist friar. Theebaw, from the age of twelve, was educated with the King's sons at Mandalay, at an English school established by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, and conducted by a Church Missionary, the Rev. Dr. Marks. He learnt to read and speak English a little, and to play cricket, but did not become a Christian; and, on leaving school, was placed as a religious novice in a Buddhist monastery. His mother was for many years imprisoned, while the King, who had discarded her as an unfaithful wife, did not own Theebaw as his son, and selected the Nyoung Yaun Prince to be successor on the throne. But when that King died, a successful Palace conspiracy, got up by the Tynedah Mengyee, who was Captain of the Royal Guard, set aside the legitimate Princes, released Mee-bayah from her captivity, and raised her son, Theebaw, to the throne. The most horrible cruelties were practised upon this occasion by the chiefs of the usurping faction; and the authors of these crimes, the Tynedah Mengyee and the mother of Theebaw, did not scruple to massacre nearly all the members of the Royal family, about seventy in number, the Princes and their wives and children. Theebaw declares that he himself was guiltless of those murders, being shut up in the Palace and kept ignorant of what they were doing; but he certainly became an accomplice after the fact, and retained the Tynedah Mengyee as Prime Minister under his reign. Theebaw married one of the King's daughters, named Soopya-lat, who is probably not his half-sister in real kindred, though accounted so by a legal or conventional fiction. This lady, whose portrait we are enabled also to present to our readers, is the only wife and Queen of Theebaw, and has accompanied him to his exile at Madras. Her elder sister refused to marry him, preferring confinement for life in a Buddhist nunnery. Soopya-lat is twenty-four years of age, rather good-looking, except for the contracted shape of her head, which may, indeed, be esteemed a Burmese point of female beauty, and her complexion is fairer than that of most Burmese women. She has amiable manners, and is clever enough to rule her husband, who is dull and stupid; but her temper is violent, tyrannical, and cruel; she has caused many persons to be unjustly put to death or tortured. The atrocious misgovernment of the country by the Tynedah Mengyee, and the waste of its finances in every kind of extravagance, have been carried on, in great measure, by the aid of Queen Soopya-lat; while Theebaw, who drinks gin and is very indolent, has troubled himself very little with the business of his kingdom. The Royal couple have had two children, an infant son, who died of smallpox, and a daughter of tender years, still living. They will be provided in India with ample means of living in pomp and luxury; but the people of Burma, happily, will see them no more.

Colonel E. B. Sladen, who accompanied General Prendergast to Mandalay, has for some years past held the appointment of Commissioner of the British province of Arracan. From long residence in that country, and from his five years' experience as political agent at the Court of Mandalay, Colonel Sladen is undoubtedly one of the best authorities on Burmese affairs; and he has for some years past strongly advocated its annexation by the British Government of India. Colonel Sladen will be remembered as the leader of the successful expedition to discover the old trade routes to Western China, by way of Bhamo, in 1868. He received from King Min-don-Ming the Burmese order of the highest rank, with a decoration of twelve chains.

We have related the circumstances under which the city of Mandalay was occupied by General Prendergast's forces, on Nov. 29, after the surrender of the Burmese forts and troops at Ava. Colonel Sladen, having sent a letter to the King, was admitted to an interview with Theebaw and his Ministers in the Palace, and convinced him that it was best for him to depart at once, trusting only to the British Government for the protection of his person and that of his Queen. After his Majesty left the Palace, a mob of Burmese women from the town of Mandalay contrived to get in, and stole a great deal of valuable property; but Colonel Sladen interfered and saved the Crown jewels. There was a curious collection of native arms, of which we give an illustration.

Our Special Artist, Mr. Melton Prior, has procured and forwarded to us a couple of Sketches of the fighting at the capture of Minhla, on Nov. 17, when the 2nd (Queen's Own) Bengal Native Infantry, under command of Colonel Baker, and the 11th Bengal Native Infantry, commanded by Colonel Harris, aided by the 12th Madras Native Infantry, stormed the Burmese defences. There was a stockade a mile west of the town of Minhla. It was too hastily constructed to be strong; but the surrounding jungle, swarming with the King's troops, made the approach a matter of extreme difficulty. It was stubbornly held; and the Burmese kept up a sustained musketry fire, aided by a few light field-pieces. The stockade was attacked from two sides. Colonel Harris led the assault on the left or river front; Lieutenant Downes, Adjutant of the 11th, that on the right. On the left, Lieutenant Dury, temporarily attached to the 11th, was mortally wounded while gallantly leading his company. The command was then taken by Major Hill and Captain Peile. The stockade having been captured by a rush, the Governor's Palace, immediately beyond it, was taken and burnt. The troops then wheeled to the right, and advanced eastward on the town of Minhla. The country was thickly covered with jungle, but there was a high masonry building which mounted eleven guns, several of them rifled, besides a number of jingals and culverins. The Government river steamer, the Irrawaddy, and the armed launch, the Kathleen, had been shelling this position, but without much success in silencing the Burmese fire. The troops had some severe fighting in the jungle to the north and east of the town. The thickness of the cover had separated the men; and when the assault was made, it was by a dozen men of different regiments. The Burmese waited for the attack, which had to be delivered up a long ramp. The party was gallantly led by Lieutenant Downes, of the 11th Bengal, and Lieutenant Wilkinson, of the 12th Madras. The latter was dangerously wounded by a slash on the head from a sword. The first party of attack was supported by another party under Major Hill. After the capture of this central

post, the resistance was slight. The enemy fled in all directions, and were vigorously followed up; many were shot down. Great part of the town was burnt, as well as the Governor's residence. The shells from the river fired a few houses, and the conflagration rapidly spread among the flimsy bamboo huts. After the town had been captured, a mine was unexpectedly exploded. The Kathleen, which was alongside, was not damaged, but had a narrow escape. Major Macneill, of the Staff, was wounded early in the day, and having, nevertheless, continued to advance, was again hit at the taking of the stockade. His injuries, however, were slight. On the opposite side, where the fort was, the fighting was unimportant. The troops engaged were the 2nd Battalion of the Liverpool Regiment, the 21st and 25th Madras Native Infantry, and the 1st Madras Pioneers Native Infantry. No officers were wounded there, and only one man of the Liverpool Regiment. The fort was abandoned, so that no assault had to be delivered.

SNAKE-CHARMERS AT CAIRO.

In Egypt, as well as in India, one of the most favourite popular entertainments is the exhibition of tamed snakes, which itinerant showmen carry about in baskets, and will readily produce where a gathering of spectators, in any convenient place among the courts and alleys of the city, promises to reward the performance with a good handful of coin. A scene of this kind was beheld and sketched by our Artist in Cairo, and is faithfully reproduced in the Engraving. The proprietor of the snakes is an Arab of the Soudan, who is familiar with those creatures, and has taught them to obey the motions of his rod, lifting their heads together at command, or falling, or turning, as in a sort of dance, to the accompaniment of his mystical sing-song. The grave Moslem gentlemen seated around, when they are surprised at this or anything else, are sure to say, "Mashallah!" being like the celebrated Rumpfioozle of the elder Charles Matthews, who "sits on his tail all day long, and wonders at the wonderful works of Providence!"

ART EXHIBITIONS.

The collection of pictures on view at the Salon Parisien (160, New Bond-street) may attract the curious, and may possibly commend themselves to amateurs of strong sensations; but it is difficult to see in what direction the cause of painting or morals is advanced by such an exhibition. M. Charles Verlat has acquired a reputation both as a teacher and an artist of the Belgian school, but his ghastly and prosaic treatment of "Golgotha" will hardly give it a place among the greater renderings of this solemn scene, of which the last few years have given us specimens. Nor is Signor Biondi's "Antigonus" (the last of the Maccabees), hanging, beaten and dishonoured, on the tree, less melodramatic in its interpretation of terrible tragedy. The transition, moreover, to M. Van Beers' mundane comedies, and M. G. Van Der Straeten's caricatures, is somewhat too abrupt, in spite of the artificially modulated lights with which the gallery is provided. If M. Van Beers' principal work, "The Awakening Beauty," has any claims as a work of art, they must be looked for in the delicate gradations of the light colours which cover the greater portion of the canvas. These can only be fairly judged by honest daylight, or its nearest artificial rendering. It is a pity that M. Van Beers should allow his undeniable talents to become the servile exponent of the "worst side of his imagination"; and one has only to look at such works as "The Japanese Doll" (16) and the "Series of Landscapes" (25) to realise what he might do, if he cared to put his gifts to the best use. M. G. Van Der Straeten is one of those facile Belgian modellers in clay of whom Harzé (by trade a gunsmith) was one of the most successful; but the former seeks his subjects persistently in the boulevard and the opera, whilst the latter gave us fresh country life or market-girls. The little group "Private and Confidential" (31) shows Van Der Straeten at his best, the bit of scandal which has just passed from one figure to the other affording excellent scope for his power of rendering facial expression.

The second exhibition at Messrs. F. C. M'Queen's Fine-Art Gallery (181, Tottenham-court-road) shows a very marked improvement on its predecessor, and should encourage the proprietors—as well as artist exhibitors—in their attempt to decentralize the present picture world. There is no apparent reason why good pictures should not be as attractive in Tottenham-court-road as in Bond-street. The former, moreover, being close to Fitzroy-square, the home of so many artists, distinguished alike in fact and fiction, would almost have a greater claim to precedence, especially when galleries so well lighted and adapted for exhibition as is that of Messrs. M'Queen can be found. The principal exhibitors on the present occasion are Mr. Arthur G. Bell, Mr. Herbert Snell, M. Charles Frère, Mr. A. Ludovici, Mr. Samuel Carter, and others. Two sketches by J. M. W. Turner for his well-known pictures of "Rouen" and the "Golden Bough," are interesting rather as relics; and Mr. J. Richards' "Charge of the Guards at Kassassin" is sufficiently vigorous and terrible to please most lovers of battle scenes.

At a meeting of the Royal National Life-Boat Institution, held on the 7th inst. at its house, John-street, Adelphi, rewards amounting to £207 were granted to the crews of life-boats belonging to the institution, for services rendered during the past month, and payments amounting to £6525 were made on the 290 life-boat establishments of the institution. Among the contributions lately received were £1000 from Mrs. Duguid to defray the cost of the new life-boat station about to be formed in the island of Lewis (Hebrides); £1200 from the Civil Service Life-Boat Fund to defray the cost of building or repairing the houses and slipways for the use of the four life-boats presented to the institution by gentlemen in H.M. Civil Service; £330 collected by William Callow, Esq., R.W.S., F.R.G.S., of Great Missenden, Bucks, and friends, to be employed in furnishing existing life-boats with the latest improvements; and £100 from the Company of Mercers. The meeting expressed its deep regret at the loss the institution had sustained by the death of Mr. Thomas Chapman, F.R.S., V.P., late chairman of the institution, and one of its trustees. Colonel Fitzroy Clayton was appointed a trustee of the institution, in succession to Mr. Chapman. New life-boats were sent during the past month to Newbiggin, St. Davids, and Tenby.—At the annual meeting of the committee of the Civil Service Fund, held on the 12th inst., and presided over by Mr. C. G. Turner, Controller-General of Inland Revenue, it was reported by Mr. Charles Dibdin, the honorary secretary, that during the past year the fund had contributed £1200 to the National Life-Boat Institution to defray the expenses incurred by the society in providing houses, &c., for the four life-boats presented to it and endowed by the fund. It was further stated that these boats had been instrumental in saving 189 lives and three vessels; and it was decided to issue an appeal to the Civil Service for funds to build and endow a fifth life-boat.

THE COURT.

The Queen, who is still at Osborne, in the enjoyment of good health, will come to London next week to open Parliament. Yesterday week General the Hon. Arthur Hardinge, C.B., arrived at Osborne on his return from India, and had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. General the Hon. Arthur Hardinge, C.B., was on Saturday last invested by the Queen with the insignia of the Second Class of the Order of the Bath, military division, and received the honour of knighthood. Princess Beatrice was present. Lord John Manners, Postmaster-General, General the Hon. Sir Arthur Hardinge, and the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. On Sunday morning her Majesty and the Royal family, and the members of the Royal household, attended Divine service at Osborne, the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster officiating. Lord John Manners, General the Hon. Sir Arthur Hardinge, the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, and General the Right Hon. Sir Henry and the Hon. Lady Ponsonby had the honour of dining with the Queen and the Royal family. The Duchess of Albany, Princess Alice, and the infant Duke of Albany left Osborne for Claremont on Monday morning. Colonel the Hon. H. Byng, attended her Royal Highness to Portsmouth in her Majesty's yacht Alberta (Captain Fullerton). Viscount and Viscountess Wolsley had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal family on Monday evening.

The Princess of Wales has been suffering from a severe cold, from which she is recovering. The occasion of the anniversary of the birth of Prince Albert Victor of Wales was duly celebrated yesterday week, he being twenty-two years of age, at Sandringham, in the metropolis, and at Windsor. At Sandringham, where a numerous party of guests had assembled, a theatrical performance was given in the evening, Mr. J. L. Toole and his company having been specially summoned there. The entertainment consisted of Mr. Toole's latest success, "Going It," which was followed by the farce of "The Birth-place of Podgers." Mr. Toole and his company were most successful in their endeavours to amuse the distinguished audience, which numbered between 200 and 300, the tenantry and county residents of the immediate vicinity having been invited. On Sunday morning the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud, and the guests staying at Sandringham, were present at Divine service at Sandringham church. The service was performed by the Rev. F. A. J. Hervey, Domestic Chaplain to the Prince of Wales, and Rector of Sandringham, assisted by the Rev. Robert Eytton, sub-almoner to the Queen, who also preached. The Prince left Sandringham on Monday for London, returning on Wednesday. The Duke of Connaught and the Danish Minister and Madame De Falbe left Sandringham in the morning on the termination of their visit to the Prince and Princess. On Tuesday the Prince of Wales presided at a meeting of the "Gordon Memorial" committee at Marlborough House, and afterwards visited the Duke and Duchess of Connaught at Buckingham Palace. His Royal Highness took the oaths and his seat in the House of Lords in the afternoon.—Arrangements have been completed between Mr. Gordon, of Abergeldie, and the representatives of her Majesty, for a new lease of the estate of Abergeldie, as the residence of the Prince of Wales. The lease will comprise the whole estate, with the castle, shootings, fishings, and other rights. It is for nineteen years, and the rent is to be £3500 a year.

The Earl of Iddesleigh has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Devonshire, in the place of the late Duke of Somerset.

Mr. William Bartlett Dalby, Esq., aural surgeon, has been knighted.

Lord Powis on Monday laid the memorial-stone of the new vestry and union offices for St. George's, Hanover-square, situated in Mount-street.

Mr. J. R. Bulwer, Q.C., has been appointed a Master in Lunacy, in succession to Mr. H. J. Graham, who was recently appointed Clerk of Parliaments.

Mr. Thomas Hughes, Q.C., one of the County Court Judges of Cheshire, has accepted the post of umpire of the Potteries Board of Arbitration, which has recently been resuscitated.

Lieutenant-Colonel Lord Edward Pelham Clinton has been elected chairman for the ensuing year of the Executive Committee of the Volunteer Forces Benevolent Association.

Mr. John Harrower, M.A., has been appointed Professor of Greek in the University of Aberdeen, in succession to Principal Geddes.

Dr. Andrew Wilson, F.R.S.E., Examiner in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Glasgow, has been appointed an Examiner in Botany in connection with the Intermediate Board of Education in Ireland.

Mr. Hunter Rodwell, Q.C., has been presented, by Mr. John Berners, of Woolverstone Park, Ipswich, with a cheque for £1000, to defray his expenses as the Conservative candidate for the Eye division of Suffolk.

Lady John Manners on Monday opened a free library and reading-room at Loughborough, built by donations and subscriptions, a large proportion of which was contributed by working men.

At a meeting of the Chapter of Ely, on the 7th inst., the Very Rev. Lord Alwyne Compton, Dean of Worcester, was elected Bishop of Ely, in succession to the late Dr. Woodford. It is expected that his Lordship will be consecrated on Feb. 2.

The marriage of Lieutenant-General the Hon. Hussey Fane Keane, C.B., and Lady Isabella Schuster, eldest daughter of the late Earl and Countess of Orkney, and widow of Mr. Leo Schuster, took place in Sunningdale church on Monday morning.—The marriage of the Hon. Arthur Grenville Fortescue (Coldstream Guards), fourth son of Earl Fortescue, with Lilla Gertrude, third daughter of Mr. Frederic Fane, of Moyles Court, Hants, was solemnised on Tuesday in Ellingham parish church. Colonel Graham Montgomery (Coldstream Guards) was the bridegroom's best man; and the four bridesmaids were the Lady Frances Fortescue, youngest sister of the bridegroom; Miss Violet Fane, half-sister of the bride; Miss Christine Hamlyn Fane, and Miss Astley.

The scholarships offered by the Council of Newnham College, Cambridge, in the Higher Local Examination of 1885 were awarded as follows:—The Goldsmiths' Scholarship to Miss Slater, Newnham College; the Clothworkers' Scholarship to Miss Bremner, Hampstead; the Drapers' Scholarship to Miss Morant, Hampstead; a scholarship of £50 for three years, given by Mrs. Stephen Winkworth, to Miss Bayne, Clapham High School; a scholarship given for distinction in Greek to Miss Mackenzie, Newnham College. Scholarships were also awarded to Miss Furnill, Truro High School, and Miss Ganaway, University College, Bristol. The scholarship of £50 for three years, offered by the Gilchrist Trustees, was awarded to Miss Little, of the Leeds High School, who elected to hold it at Newnham College.



THE SEDAN CHAIR.

AFTER THE PICTURE BY KAHNMEIER.

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Tuesday, Jan. 12.

The Parliamentary Session of 1886 opened to-day. In the Senate and the Chamber the whole sitting was taken up with the definitive election of the Bureau, M. Le Royer being elected President in the former house, and M. Floquet in the latter. The Ministerial declaration and the President's Message will be read on Thursday, and next week serious business will begin. The Chamber is new; the Ministry is new: what will be the result of the collaboration of these two new elements? The Ministry is composed as follows:—Freyinet, Foreign Affairs; Demole, Justice; Sarrien, Interior; Sadi-Carnot, Finance; Boulanger, War; Aube, Marine; Goblet, Public Instruction; Baihaut, Public Works; Develle, Agriculture; Granet, Posts and Telegraphs; Lockroy, Commerce and Industry. MM. Lockroy and Granet belong to the Extreme Left; MM. Sadi, Carnot, and Develle to the Democratic Left; MM. Demole and Baihaut to the Republican Union; Rear-Admiral Aube is not in the Chamber, M. De Freyinet is a senator, and MM. Goblet and Sarrien are Independent Republicans. General Boulanger is not in the Chamber, but his Radical opinions are well known. This Cabinet is one of conciliation and Republican concentration; its members come from all parts of the political compass, so that its programme must be one that concerns interests rather than opinions, practical reforms rather than questions of abstract politics. This programme contains three leading items: liquidation of the Tonquin difficulty; financial retrenchment, and reform in the administrative personnel. It may be interesting to state that Rear-Admiral Aube is not by any means a partisan of ironclads. His opinion is that division of labour must be introduced into naval warfare. All means of attack and defence must not be concentrated on heavy ironclads, but distributed amongst cruisers and torpedo-boats. The great desiderata, he thinks, are speed and number of boats.

Is it still worth while talking about Imperialists and Monarchists? On Sunday the Imperialist committees presented their respects to Prince Victor, who, in thanking them, carefully avoided the word Republic or Empire, and spoke only of universal suffrage and the cause of the people and of the Napoleons. The wisecracks say that this speech is an indication of an approaching reconciliation between the Prince and his father, and a hint that if France needs a good President of the Republic, Prince Victor is quite ready. All these previsions are wild and antiquated. Anyone who has studied the history of modern France must see that the Republic is the only form of government possible, and that the country is sick of abstract politics and party struggles. The general indifference as regards politics increases yearly; the professional politicians become more and more mediocre; the old ideas of statecraft and government are dying out. All that France asks of her deputies is honesty and common-sense, and she is beginning to comprehend that the grouping of interests, art, science, ideas, and labour in all its forms constitute a force superior to politics.

The roofs of Paris and the parks and gardens are covered with snow, happily undimmed by smuts, from which the French capital has the privilege of being free. The streets have been cleared and swept with great expedition, thanks to the wood pavement and to the liberal use of salt.

The statistics concerning the wine crop of 1885 have just been published. The situation they disclose is far from satisfactory, the crop being the poorest within the last twenty-five years, with the exception of that of 1879. The total is 28,536,000 hectolitres, compared with nearly 35,000,000 in 1884, and more than 36,000,000 in 1883. The causes of this falling off are phylloxera, mildew, and rain. Particular vintages have, however, been good. In the valley of the Loire, in Burgundy, the Maconnais, and the Côtes du Rhone the crops were excellent. In the east and in Champagne the crop amounts to 1,800,000 hectolitres, as compared with 2,300,000 hectolitres in 1884. In the Bordelais, there is a falling off of 3,000,000 hectolitres. The vineyards of the south are more than ever ravaged by phylloxera.

M. De Falloux, member of the Academy, died last week, at Angers, at the age of seventy-four. M. De Falloux was Minister and deputy under the Empire; a Catholic, a Liberal, a pamphleteer, a gentleman farmer, and an historian—in short, an eminent man in all respects. Amongst other deaths of the week may be noticed that of Comte Adrien De la Valette, a quixotic Royalist, who had but one fixed idea—"Dieu et mon Roy." In 1848 he started a Reactionary journal, *L'Assemblée Nationale*, which revived periodically from its ashes whenever there was revolution in the air. M. De la Valette lost his fortune in a scheme for boring a tunnel to replace the Simplon Pass; and the rest of his life was passed in aristocratic dignity and interminable difficulties. How he managed to raise the money to publish his newspaper, from time to time, is a mystery worthy of the study of a novelist. But to the end, M. De la Valette remained faithful to his God and his King, and died in a vast mansion, where the furniture was threadbare, and the hearth-stone bereft of fire. T. C.

In the German Reichstag on Saturday last the bill for the construction of a canal between the North Sea and the Baltic was referred to a committee of twenty-one members.

The Russian Budget statement of the Minister of Finance for the fiscal year 1885-6 has been published. The ordinary revenue amounted to 787,463,691 roubles, and the expenditure to 812,751,030 roubles. In addition, the extraordinary expenditure for railway and harbour construction amounted to 52,643,240 roubles, which, equally with the deficit in the ordinary accounts, has to be met from extraordinary resources and the funds in the Treasury.

The Prefect of Venice has published a declaration stating that cholera does not exist either in the city or in any quarter of the Venetian provinces.

We have been requested by Dr. Pickering, the English medical resident at Monte Carlo, to state that the death of the young and beautiful Lady Capel from typhoid fever did not occur at Monte Carlo (as stated in a London journal), but that the demise of her Ladyship occurred at two hours' distance by rail from Monte Carlo. During the ten years' practice of Dr. Pickering in this town, but few cases of typhoid have occurred, the whole of which were imported from other countries. The talented author of "Called Back," who was reported to have died at Monte Carlo, caught the infection at Florence. He was treated by Dr. Pickering, and had recovered from the fever; but unfortunately contracted cold, which ended in brain fever, and death.

On Tuesday the representatives of the Great Powers delivered to the Servian Government a Collective Note, calling upon Servia, Bulgaria, and Greece to disarm, and promising that Turkey would follow their example.

A bill has passed the United States Senate, on the motion of Mr. Edmunds, for the suppression of the Mormon Church. It vests the property of that Church in trustees, to be appointed by President Cleveland.—Very severe weather is reported from the North-Western and Atlantic States. Numerous disasters by sea and land have occurred.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 13.

A further improvement has taken place in the exchanges, and gold has gone into the Bank of England from abroad. In the outside market there is great difficulty in finding employment for the large balances, the result being that for the discount of three-months' bills, 2½ is all that can now be obtained. As the Bank of England rate is 4 per cent, the market would seem to look for an early reduction to 3½ or 3; but as but little is said as to that, it must be inferred that the discount houses are guided chiefly by what they have to give day by day for the money used in their business. They have just now very good reason to keep this point in view, for the experience of the past half-year shows most conclusively that by so guiding themselves good profits may be made in what seem to be bad times. Reference was made last week to the decline in the profits of the larger London banks; and of the dividends since declared, those of the discount companies show not less result, but more. The National Discount Company, for example, is to pay 13 per cent per annum, as compared with 12 for the two previous years. The only explanation of this increased profit is the low rate the company gave for day-to-day money at several periods during the half-year. The Union Discount Company (the result of the fusion of the General Credit and the United Discount Companies) is able to announce a dividend of 4 per cent, and though this was earned over a longer period than six months, it is a satisfactory experience.

As usual, the Metropolitan has been the first of the home railway companies to announce the dividend result of the half-year, and the proposed rate of distribution is very satisfactory—viz., 4 per cent per annum, or the same as for the previous half-year. For many years, to December, 1884, the dividend was 5; but on several occasions the reserve fund had to be intrenched upon in order to maintain this rate.

The London bank dividends announced during the past week are quite in keeping with those of the London and Westminster and the Union of London, already referred to. The London Joint-Stock Bank dividend has been further reduced to 12 per cent per annum; the Consolidated Bank rate is 9 against 10; the Alliance Bank rate is 6½ against 7; and Lloyd, Barnett, and Bosanquet's, 17½ against 20. The Imperial Bank again pays 7, and the City Bank 10; but in the case of the latter, the amount to be carried forward to the current half-year is only £6275, as against £10,403 brought into the account. The country companies maintain their rates with few exceptions, and some pay more than before.

Further American railway dividends are announced. They are up to recent experience. The St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Manitoba Railway, and the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fé, both pay quarterly dividends of 1½ per cent. The Canadian Pacific rate is 3 per cent per annum, under the annuity purchased by the company of the Dominion Government. The increased traffic result encourages expectations in the Stock Exchange that something additional will soon be paid, but the directors will be wise to exercise the fullest restraint over themselves in this matter.

Marine insurance dividends are coming out well. The Universal Marine Insurance Company is to pay 20 per cent for the past year, as compared with 15 for 1884 and 12½ for 1883. The Alliance Marine pays 4 per cent for the fifth consecutive year.

The Hull Dock Company dividend has further declined to 2½, the rate for 1884 having been 3, and for 1883 and 1882, 4. On the other hand, an increased payment is recommended by the London and St. Katharine Docks Company, the dividend for the half-year being 2½ per cent per annum, compared with 1½ for the six months to June last, and with 2 for the second half of 1884.

T. S.

"THE SEDAN CHAIR."

The picture, by a German artist, which is reproduced in our Extra Supplement shows an incident of fashionable life in the last century, or at an early period of the nineteenth century, when a peculiar vehicle was in use especially for conveying either ladies or gentlemen through the streets to balls and evening parties. But persons who are not yet very old, and whose childhood, fifty years ago, was passed in some English country town of genteel pretensions, can well remember seeing the sedan-chairs, with their finely-dressed occupants, carried up the steps of a mansion and through the wide front door into the hall, where the visitors could emerge from these cages with unruffled plumage. They were also made available for going to evening service at church, and were deposited under the portico while Divine worship was going on. The invention of this conveyance, which is the French *chaise à porteurs*, has been dated in the year 1581 by some antiquaries, and has been ascribed to the town of Sedan, from which its name is derived; but it cannot differ materially from the ancient hand-litter, except that the occupant sits upright instead of lying on a portable couch. It was commonly used at Paris about the year 1617, and was introduced into England, in the Sedan form, by George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, the favourite of James I. and Charles I. In the time of Queen Anne and the first of the Georges, it was one of the most ordinary conveniences of polite society, as the wearing of elaborate powdered wigs and costly dresses forbade gentlemen so attired, not less than ladies, to expose themselves to the rain. The scene here depicted by the Artist would probably be in a city of Germany or Flanders. The lady, complete in her own notions of elegance, from the feathered head-dress to the high-heeled satin shoes, has tripped mincingly down the steps, followed by her maid with a furred wrapper, to enter this convenient box, through the glass sides and front of which she can see and be seen. It will be safely borne along by the two men, one behind and one before, holding the horizontal poles.

Sir E. C. Guinness has sent to the secretary of the late Artisans' Exhibition at Dublin a cheque for £2500, to clear off the debt on the exhibition building, which it is proposed to utilise as a school of technical education.

The Board of Trade have awarded a gold watch to Captain Zacharias Van Hoog Teylingen, of the Dutch fishing-smack *Noordster*, of Vlaardingen, and money rewards to his crew, in acknowledgment of their humane services to the shipwrecked crew of the *Lucretia*, of Shields, abandoned at sea on Nov. 28.

At the annual court of the Royal Humane Society, on Tuesday, the Stanhope gold medal, for the most deserving case of saving life from drowning during the past year, was unanimously awarded to a fisherman, named Alfred Collins, for having, on the night of the 16th ult., gallantly rescued a boy named Hosking, who had fallen overboard from a fishing-lugger about eight miles off the Eddystone. A gale of wind was blowing at the time, accompanied by heavy rain. The work of the society for the past twelve months was most satisfactory. No less than 391 persons received rewards for their gallantry and promptitude in saving or attempting to save life. One gold medal, 15 silver medals, 139 bronze medals, 10 clasps, 192 testimonials on vellum and parchment, and 35 pecuniary rewards were awarded.

OBITUARY.

SIR G. A. F. HOUSTOUN-BOSWALL, BART.

Sir George Augustus Frederick Houston-Boswall, second

Baronet of Blackadder, county of Berwick, J.P. and D.L., late Colonel Grenadier Guards, died at Bath, on the 8th inst. He was born Oct. 4, 1809, the elder son of General Sir William Houston, Bart., G.C.B., by Lady Jane Maitland, his wife, and was male heir and representative of the ancient family of the Houston-Boswall, heritable Baillies and Justiciaries of the Barony of Busbie, in the shire of Wigton. He succeeded to the Baronetcy at the death of his father, in 1842, and married, in 1847, Euphemia, only child of Mr. Thomas Boswall, of Blackadder, whose name he assumed, and by her (who died Dec. 29, 1882) he leaves issue. The eldest son, now Sir George Lauderdale Houston-Boswall, third Baronet, was born Dec. 11, 1847, and is married to Phoebe, daughter of Sir Hugh Allan, by whom he has issue.

LADY CAPELL.

Ellenor Harriet Maria, wife of Lord Capell, grandson of the Earl of Essex, and daughter of Mr. William Henry Harford, of Oldtown, Almondsbury, in the county of Gloucester, died at Cannes, on the 31st ult. Her Ladyship was married, July 12, 1882, and leaves a son, Algernon George De Vere, born Feb. 21, 1884.

PROFESSOR M'KANE, M.P.

Mr. John M'Kane, LL.D., M.P. for Mid Armagh, died suddenly at his residence in Lower Leeson-street, Dublin, on the 11th inst. He was Professor of Law in the Queen's College, Belfast, but resigned the chair just before the recent election, at which he was elected, in the Conservative interest, by a large majority. He was called to the Bar in 1864, and was a very popular member of the North-East Circuit.

MR. G. H. LINDSAY.

Mr. George Hayward Lindsay, of Glasnevin House, in the county of Dublin, J.P. and D.L., whose death, at the age of eighty-six, is announced, was son of the Hon. and Right Rev. Charles Lindsay, Bishop of Kildare (sixth son of the fifth Earl of Balcarres); received his education at Eton; held for some time the commission of Captain in the Army; and subsequently resided at Glasnevin, much esteemed and respected. In 1861 he served the office of High Sheriff of the county of Dublin. Mr. Lindsay married, in 1828, Lady Mary Gore, sister of the late Earl of Arran, K.P., and by her (who died April 28, 1885, aged eighty-two) had issue; the eldest surviving son, Colonel Henry Gore Lindsay, is married to the daughter of the first Lord Tredegar.

MR. G. RICHARDSON.

Mr. George Richardson, the Receiver and Accountant-General of the Post Office, died on the 6th inst. In him the country has lost a public servant of great experience and capacity. He entered the Post Office in 1845, and was at first employed in the Money Order Department, which he left, in 1861, in order to take an active part in the organisation of the Post Office Savings Bank. He subsequently performed much arduous and responsible work, notably in connection with the transfer of the telegraphs to the State, and the establishment of the Postal Order system. He was appointed Assistant Receiver and Accountant-General in 1877, and succeeded the late Mr. George Chetwynd, C.B., as Receiver and Accountant-General in 1882.

We have also to record the deaths of—

Lord Francis Charles Gordon-Lennox, formerly Captain Scots Guards, third son of the present Duke of Richmond, K.G., on the 1st inst., at Goodwood, aged thirty-six.

Major John Nemhant Hibbert, of Chalfont Park, Bucks, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff in 1837, on the 3rd inst., in his ninetieth year.

Mrs. Woulfe Flanagan (Mary), wife of the Right Hon. Stephen Woulfe Flanagan, and daughter of the late Mr. John Richard Corballis, Q.C., LL.D., on the 8th inst.

Mr. James Fergusson, F.R.S., a distinguished architect, author of a "History of Architecture," on the 9th inst., aged seventy-eight.

Mr. Alfred Hanson, Comptroller of the Probate, Legacy, and Succession Duties, on the 6th inst. He was called to the Bar in 1843, and had considerable practice in the Chancery Courts up to the time of his appointment.

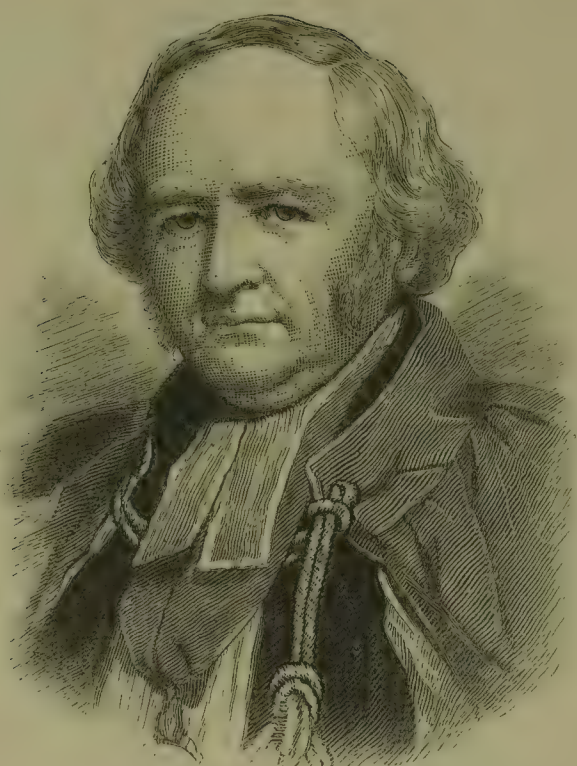
RENT REDUCTIONS.

At Earl Stanhope's rent audit on his estates in Kent, held at Sevenoaks recently, a reduction of 10 per cent was made on the whole of the farm rents.—Lord Sondes has announced his intention of returning 30 per cent of his last half-year's rents.—Lord Macdonald of the Isles has allowed an abatement of 20 per cent on the half-year's rent of his Skye tenant farmers.—The Hon. Mrs. Meynell-Ingram has made a return of 20 per cent on their last half-year's rents to her West Yorkshire agricultural tenants.—The Rector of Warehorne (Kent) has remitted one third of the extraordinary tithe due from the hop-growers in his district; and, in some instances, where the hop crop had been extremely small, the reverend gentleman declined to take any tithe at all.—Mr. Arthur Wilson, of Tranby Croft, East Yorkshire, has granted a reduction of 25 per cent to his farm tenants on their last half-year's rents.—An abatement of rent has been made to the tenants on the Dumfriesshire estate of Mr. Edward Brook, who has just intimated that, in consequence of long-continued agricultural depression, the half-year's rent now due will be remitted. Mr. Brook also remitted a half-year's rent last year—a gift to his tenants of £2000 on each occasion.—The Rev. Sir Brook G. Bridges, Bart., of Goodnestone Park, Wingham, has again granted liberal reductions in rent to his Kentish tenants, varying in amount from 10 to 25 per cent, according to the circumstances of the different tenants.—Sir Edward Dering has again, for the third or fourth time, granted his Romney Marsh tenantry 25 per cent off their rents.

M. Waddington, the French Ambassador, in opening the fifth annual congress of the National Society of French Masters in England, held in John-street, Adelphi, yesterday week, commended to the head-masters of English schools the importance of grounding pupils in modern languages, especially the French. Those who had learned to love the literature of a foreign country were not, he said, far from being the friends of that country. The congress concluded its sittings last Saturday, and in the evening the members dined together at the Café Royal, Regent-street.



THE LATE DR. SAMUEL BIRCH,
KEEPER OF EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.



THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH,
LORD PRIMATE OF IRELAND.

THE LATE DR. S. BIRCH, F.S.A.

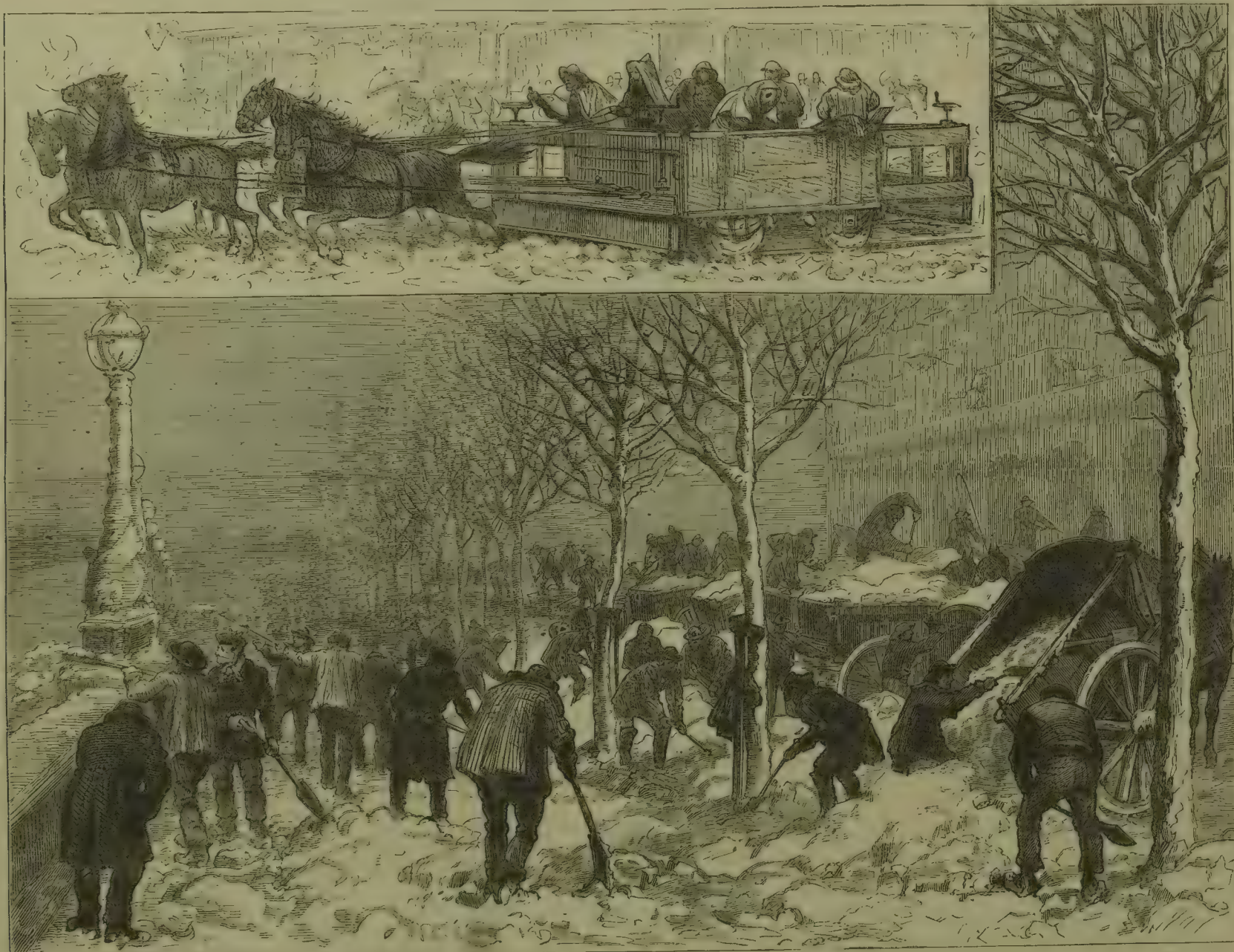
This eminent archaeologist, Keeper of the Egyptian and Oriental Antiquities in the British Museum, died on the 27th ult., having just completed his seventy-second year. Dr. Samuel Birch, D.C.L. and LL.D., was son of the Rev. Dr. Samuel Birch, D.D., Rector of St. Mary Woolnoth, London, and was grandson of Alderman Samuel Birch, sometime Lord Mayor of London. He was employed, with the late Sir Thomas Duffus Hardy, in the Record Office, previously to his appointment, in January, 1836, to a post in the British Museum, where he has served just fifty years, and since 1861 has been chief custodian of the Egyptian, and the Assyrian, and other Oriental collections. He was one of the most learned Egyptologists in Europe, his reputation being acknowledged in France, Germany, and Italy, as well as in England;

and he was the author of many valuable treatises, among which "The History of Ancient Pottery," republished in 1873, and an "Introduction to the Study of Hieroglyphics," besides his special Museum guide-books and catalogues, his numerous contributions to the Society of Biblical Archaeology, his frequent articles and letters in the scientific and literary periodicals, and his labours as an editor and commentator, attest his unwearied industry and zeal for the advancement of knowledge. A dictionary and grammar of Egyptian hieroglyphics occupied his attention till shortly before his death. He had also studied the Chinese language and literature, and was a high authority upon numismatics, and upon antique and Asiatic fine arts. Dr. Birch presided over the international Congress of Oriental scholars held in London in September, 1874, and was Rede Lecturer at Cambridge in 1876.

THE LATE ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH.

The Lord Primate of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Ireland, the Most Rev. Marcus Beresford, D.D., Archbishop of Armagh, died on the 26th ult., at the age of eighty-four or eighty-five. He was a son of the Right Rev. George De la Poer Beresford, Bishop of Kilmore, a near relative of the first Marquis of Waterford. He was educated at Cambridge University, and, having taken orders in the Church, obtained preferment in his father's diocese, a rectory, a vicarage, and the offices of Vicar-General and Archdeacon. On the death of his father he was made Bishop of Kilmore, Elphin, and Ardagh; and in 1863, when the Primacy became vacant by the death of another Archbishop Beresford, he was promoted to the highest place in the Irish Church Establishment. He was Prelate of the Order of St. Patrick, and a Privy Councillor.

SNOW-PLOUGH ON THE TRAMWAY.



THROWING SNOW INTO THE THAMES FROM THE EMBANKMENT.

THE SNOW IN LONDON.



MR. HANDEL COSSHAM—EAST BRISTOL.

Born 1824, at Thornbury, near Bristol; is a colliery proprietor at Kingswood, in the same neighbourhood; has been in the Bristol Town Council; was Mayor of Bath last year.



MR. J. CARVELL WILLIAMS—S. NOTTINGHAM.

Born 1821, at Stepney; was Secretary of the Liberation Society (Anti-State Church Society) from 1847 to 1877, and since Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of that Society.



MR. B. HINGLEY—NORTH WORCESTERSHIRE.

Born 1830, son of the late Mr. Noah Hingley, colliery proprietor and ironmaster, of Gradley and Netherton; is Chairman of the South Staffordshire Ironmasters' Association.



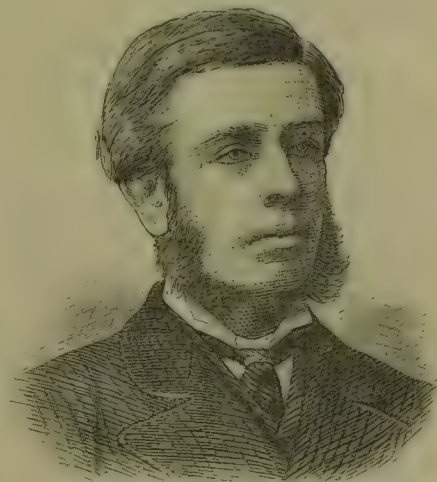
SIR JAMES FERGUSSON—N. E. MANCHESTER.

Born 1832, son of Sir C. D. Fergusson, Bart., Kilkerran; M.P. for Ayr, to 1868; Under-Secretary for India and Home Department; Governor of South Australia, New Zealand, and Bombay.



MAJOR CORNWALLIS WEST—W. DENBIGHSHIRE.

Born 1835, son of late Mr. Frederick West, of Ruthin Castle; Lieutenant-Colonel 1st Volunteer Battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers; Lord Lieutenant of Denbighshire; contested Lymington 1874, and West Cheshire 1880.



MR. J. MORGAN HOWARD, Q.C.—DULWICH.

Son of a solicitor at Swansea, born 1833; called to the Bar 1858, made Q.C. in 1874; presided at Norfolk Election Inquiry; Bench of Middle Temple; Recorder of Guildford; magistrate for Middlesex and Westminster.



MR. EUGENE WASON—SOUTH AYRESHIRE.

Born 1846, son of late Mr. P. Rigby Wason, M.P. for Ipswich; educated at Rugby and Wadham College, Oxford; was a barrister on Northern Circuit, and was a solicitor in London, but has left the firm.



MR. FRANK HARDCASTLE—S.E. LANCASHIRE.

Born 1844, at Firwood, near Bolton; son of late Mr. James Hardcastle, who was formerly High Sheriff of Denbighshire; educated at the Repton Grammar School; is a bleacher and a colliery proprietor.



LORD WOLMER—PETERSFIELD, HANTS.

Viscount Wolmer, eldest son of Earl of Selborne, late Lord Chancellor, born 1859; educated at Winchester and University College, Oxford; was private secretary to Mr. Childers; married a daughter of Lord Salisbury.



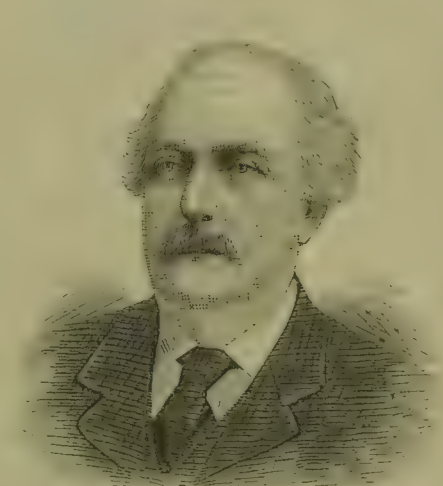
COLONEL A. M. BROOKFIELD—EAST SUSSEX.

Born 1853, son of late Rev. Canon Brookfield, Chaplain to the Queen, grandson of late Sir Charles Elton, Bart.; educated at Rugby and Jesus College, Cambridge; was in 13th Hussars from 1872 to 1880.



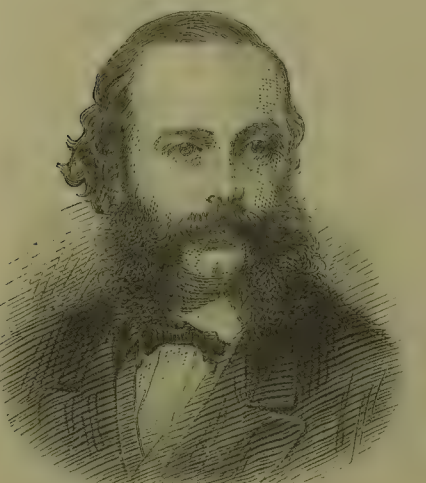
MR. JOSEPH HOWARD—TOTTENHAM.

Son of late Mr. J. E. Howard, of Tottenham; educated at London University; was called to the Bar in 1856, but is now in the iron trade; a magistrate for Middlesex.



MR. J. M. MACLEAN—OLDHAM.

Born at Edinburgh, 1835; became a journalist; went to India; was editor and proprietor of the "Bombay Gazette," and is now a proprietor of the "Western Mail."



MR. R. JASPER MORE—SOUTH SHROPSHIRE.

Born 1836; son of late Rev. T. F. More, Linley Hall, Cleobury; educated at Shrewsbury and Balliol College, Oxford; is a magistrate for Shropshire and Montgomery; was High Sheriff, 1881.



MR. JOSEPH LEICESTER—WEST HAM.

Born at Warrington, 1827; was apprenticed to a glass-blower at the age of ten, and has worked in that trade, in London, since 1853; is a well-known advocate of temperance and social reform.



MR. G. P. FULLER—WEST WILTSHIRE.

Born 1833, son of late Mr. John Bird Fuller, of Neston; educated at Winchester and Christ Church, Oxford; married a daughter of Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, M.P.; has been High Sheriff of Wilts.



SIR W. CROSSMAN—PORTSMOUTH.

Born 1830, son of late Mr. R. Crossman, Cheswick, Northumberland; is a Colonel of Royal Engineers; has seen much service abroad, and had command of that Corps in the Southern District; is a K.C.M.G.

THE SNOW IN LONDON.

The sudden and heavy fall of snow, which began in London early in the morning of Wednesday week, caused much inconvenience to street traffic and discomfort to foot passengers. The omnibus and tram-car services that day were partial and intermittent. On the lines of the North London system blocks frequently occurred by the tracks being choked with snow, and the hauling of the large vehicles was only accomplished with much difficulty and severe strain on the horses. A number of tram-cars were for some time assembled along the City-road and the upper part of Holloway-road, and it was not until the afternoon, when the storm abated, that the traffic was able to be resumed in anything like its normal manner. The suburban railway system, on which hundreds of thousands of passengers daily rely to convey them from their homes to places of business in town, became more or less disorganised, trains on all the lines being late at their destinations. To this unavoidable inconvenience was added the breaking down of telegraph and signal wires by the weight of snow gathered upon them, or the extreme strain on these and the point rods, causing a difficulty in working. The plate-laying gangs, who act as fog signallers, were ordered out to their posts, and great caution had to be used to prevent any disaster. With that want of organisation in an emergency for which the parochial authorities of most districts of London are famous, there were only feeble and partial attempts to clear away the snow and the mud. The parish of St. George, Hanover-square, was an exception; there the streets were rapidly cleared by a gang of workmen with carts, who carried the snow to the Thames, and threw it from the Embankment near Pimlico Pier. The main roads under the control of this vestry were watered and ballasted immediately afterwards, so that they were kept fit for traffic. The Strand District Board also did good work, in which they were followed in some other places; but the want of any central organisation was severely felt: while some parishes did their duty, others left

it entirely undone. A good example was shown in the City, where the Commissioners of Sewers, as soon as the storm ceased, made energetic efforts to clear the streets within the City boundary. In this work no fewer than 260 horses and carts, 500 men, and 140 boys were engaged, the carts emptying the snow into the Thames from the Embankment and the bridges. By the aid of snow-ploughs, dragged by teams of ten and twelve horses, the tram lines in the south of London were cleared early, and the running of the cars, which had been greatly delayed, was enabled to be carried on again as usual. Some hundreds of men found employment in clearing the yards of the three great railways having their termini in Euston-road. In every quarter thousands of the unemployed were able to earn a few shillings by sweeping the snow from the house fronts. In the evening a slight frost set in, with the result of rendering the roadways and footpaths slippery and dangerous, and keeping indoors all but those whose business necessitated their being in the streets.

The connection between the *Daily News* and Mr. Frank Hill, who has been its editor for the past sixteen years, has been severed; and Mr. Henry W. Lucy, who has been connected with the paper several years, succeeds him.

The County Court Judgeship for Gloucestershire has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Brynmor Jones, of the Mid Wales Circuit. Mr. Bishop, stipendiary of Merthyr, was first appointed; but, by an exchange, Mr. Jones goes to Gloucester and Mr. Bishop takes the circuit formerly under Mr. Jones.

Our Portrait of the late Archbishop of Armagh is from a photograph by Mr. T. Cranfield, of Dublin; that of Mr. H. D. Erskine, the Serjeant-at-Arms, from one by Messrs. Russell and Sons, of Brompton-road; that of the late Dr. Samuel Birch, F.R.S., by Messrs. Elliott and Fry, Baker-street; and that of Mr. Bernard, Chief Commissioner of Burmah, by Mr. Fall, Baker-street.

WAR BETWEEN SERBIA AND BULGARIA.

Our Special Artist, Mr. J. Schönberg, at the head-quarters of the army of King Milan of Serbia, contributes the Sketches which appear in this week's Supplement. They represent a Serbian battery of artillery marching through the snow over a pass of the Ploca mountains; an unfortunate outpost sentinel frozen to death, whose lifeless body is discovered by his comrades, still grasping the rifle in its "hand of ice," leaning against the bank for shelter from the wintry storm; the interior of a house at Ak Palanka, where many of the sick and wounded soldiers are huddled together, on their way to Nish; and the personal movements and experiences of the newspaper Special Correspondents: two of them, riding out, under the guidance of a staff officer, reconnoitring the Serbian and Bulgarian lines by the view of their camp fires at night; and our Artist, with one of his colleagues, submitting their sketches and letters to the inspection of an officer, before they were allowed to be sent off by post.

The war is to be stopped, though the armistice will expire on March 7, if not renewed before. The representatives of the six Great Powers, on Tuesday last, delivered collective Notes to Serbia, Bulgaria, and Greece, calling upon them to disarm, and promising that Turkey will likewise discontinue the extraordinary armaments. The Serbian Government, however, seems disposed to retard the peace negotiations, and take no decisive step until the Eastern Roumelian question is decided. Serbia still pretends that she must have compensation if the Bulgarian union be sanctioned. This compensation is nothing less than the districts of Widdin and Trn. Serbian war preparations are still being carried on with great energy. This policy of Serbia is regarded with strong disapproval, because its evil influence on all the other Balkan countries, especially Greece, is feared.

It is reported that the Germans have taken possession of the Samoan Islands, and hauled down the native flags.

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DRAWN BY HARRY FURNISS.

She drew her attention, finally, to that last refuge of the drawing-room destitute, the family photograph album.

THE HEIR OF THE AGES.

By JAMES PAYN,

AUTHOR OF "LOST SIR MASSINGBERD," "BY PROXY," "THE CANON'S WARD," &c.

CHAPTER V. SORCERY.

It is doubtful whether either of the two young ladies experienced much sense of relief from their escape from the dining-room. It would have been impossible for them, considering their mutual relations, to discuss the company they had just quitted; but, in any case, the governess would have felt the topic to have been a dangerous one, for during the whole meal Mary Melburn had struck her as being hardly less ill at ease, or less in accord with those about her, than herself. At the same time, silence upon a topic so obvious was embarrassing. The consciousness of having annoyed the master of the house by her inexperience as a horsewoman also weighed upon her mind; she felt that she had made as unfavourable an impression upon him as his wife. After two such false starts, it seemed almost impossible that her career at Burrow Hall should run smoothly.

With her young companion herself she was better pleased than her behaviour at first had led her to expect. Her manner to her at dinner had been considerate, and even kind; but even with her she felt by no means sure of her footing; while Miss Melburn, on her part, showed none of that frankness and confidence which might have been looked for at her years. Her manner, it is true, was gentle and courteous; but there was a coldness, or at least a caution, about it that could not be mistaken. This was the more painful to Elizabeth Dart, since from the diagnosis she had, as usual, formed of her character, such reticence seemed to be foreign to it.

Miss Milburn treated the new-comer rather as a visitor than one who was to be a resident with her under the same roof; and, though solicitous enough for her comfort and amusement, made but little effort to make her feel at home. She drew her attention to the books upon the table, to the pictures on the walls, and, finally, to that last refuge of the drawing-room destitute, the family photograph album. To Miss Dart this was a welcome object. For the faces of our friends, as being in some sort "the company we keep," afford an index to our own characters; and where all is dark (and it was so with her as regarded all her surroundings), even the light of a farthing candle is acceptable.

The first picture represented the Squire himself in uniform, with his hand upon his sword, and with such an ultra-military expression of countenance as might have fitted Wallenstein when giving orders for the sacking of Magdeburg.

"I did not know that your father had been in the Army," observed the governess.

"Nor has he," returned Mary, with a smile; "that is the dress of the Deputy Lieutenant of the county."

There is no class of people who feel their ignorance so much as those who have really been well educated; and at that moment poor Miss Dart would willingly have sunk through the floor and taken her chance of what lay beneath it. She

nervously continued her examination of the volume, wherein the Squire still figured in various characters—dispensing justice as Chairman of the Quarter Sessions; on horseback, with the initials "M.F.H." under him, a mystery into which Miss Dart did not venture to inquire; as an orator addressing some popular assembly. Over this she lingered a little (as well she might), until Mary murmured, "That was when papa stood for Downshire. He didn't get in, you know"; which was another blow.

Then there came a portrait of the Major in his war-paint; and a handsome chief he looked.

"That is Jefferson, of course," said Mary, drily. It seemed to Miss Dart that there was some reproof in the speech—which somehow brought the colour to her cheeks—because the page was not turned over on the instant.

"What a very lovely creature!" she exclaimed, as she came upon the next portrait. It represented a young girl attired in a ball dress, and selecting a flower from a bouquet with grave significance. With all its youth and beauty, the face was not a happy one; the eyes had trouble in them, and the mouth had doubt and even dread about it.

"This is from a picture, not from life," observed Miss Dart.

"It is," was the quiet rejoinder; "but they tell me it was very like."

"I have never seen a face so beautiful in real life."

"And yet you have seen that very face; it is the portrait of my mother when she was eighteen."

The eyes of the speaker were suffused with tears, and her voice trembled with emotion.

"I see the likeness now," said the governess, gently; "I am afraid your mother must have suffered much."

It was clear, indeed, that years alone could never have brought so marked a change.

"She has been a great sufferer all her life," returned Miss Melburn, gravely.

"Poor soul, poor soul!" were the words that rose to Miss Dart's lips, but they did not pass them. It struck her that a governess should not venture to be so humanly sympathetic; and yet she could hardly say, "Poor lady, poor lady!"

To be silent must needs seem to be unfeeling; but in the meantime the moments were fleeting by; and with every moment speech, as is usual under such circumstances, became more difficult to her.

"I am very, very sorry," at last she murmured; an expression so conventional that she felt it must appear to be dictated by indifference, or perhaps even by antagonism.

"That is my Aunt Meyrick," observed Miss Mary, turning the next page with her own hand, "with whom we are probably to stay at Casterton."

This lady, to judge by her portrait, would be at least ten years the Squire's junior; there was some resemblance between them in feature, but none in expression. The widow was less handsome, but more pleasing; the mouth had

none of the Squire's decision about it, and the eyes were gentle to timidity.

"It is a very pleasant face," was Miss Dart's involuntary remark.

"Aunt Meyrick is a dear!" exclaimed Miss Melburn, enthusiastically; "and this is 'a dear,' too, in his way, though it is a very different way."

The picture showed a dwarfish and almost deformed man, with a face full of wrinkles, redeemed by eyes of keen intelligence. His apparel was homely in the extreme. He had a disc in his hand, such as electro-biologists place in the hands of their victims before proceeding to experiment upon them.

"Now, what would you say this gentleman was—for a gentleman he is, though of humble birth?" inquired Mary, with a smile.

"Well, I should say," said Miss Dart, after a moment's consideration, "that he was an enthusiast; and although an antiquarian, very fond of at least one person who has not age to recommend her—yourself."

"You must be a magician, Miss Dart!" exclaimed the other, in astonishment; "you have described Mr. Leyden to a nicety. If it is not contrary to the rules of the Black Art, would you mind telling me by what means you read his character so correctly?"

"Nothing is more simple," returned the governess, smiling; "his eyes betray his enthusiasm, the antique coin in his hand suggested the nature of his pursuit, and the tone in which you spoke of him assured me of your great regard for him, which in such a case must needs be reciprocated."

"We are very simple superstitious folk on the downs here," said Miss Melburn, smiling in her turn; "and if this gift of yours should be generally known, you will run some risk of being burnt as a sorcerer."

"Still, my art has its limits, and I confess this young gentleman puzzles me," said the governess, as she turned over the next page.

Her manner had become unconsciously natural; the barrier, or one of them, between herself and her companion had been suddenly removed. Mary, on her part, found herself, for the first time, not only interested in but drawn towards the new-comer. She remained silent, watching her narrowly. The portrait was of a young man of two or three and twenty, slender and pale, extended on a couch, with a book in his hand, on which, however, his eyes were not fixed. They rested on the ground with a thoughtful, intent expression. The face was one of great beauty; but, if not positively effeminate, it lacked vigour.

"Perhaps it may help you," said Mary, after a long pause, "to tell you what somebody else remarked whose opinion was asked upon the same subject: he said, 'that young gentleman looks like a girl in boy's clothes, and must be uncommonly lazy.'"

"Whoever said that," returned Miss Dart, quietly, "could

never have studied Lavater, nor his fellow-creatures. In the first place, it is clear that this young man is an invalid; I should say, by the pose of the limbs, a chronic invalid."

The profound silence that followed this remark was broken by a suppressed sigh.

"The book," continued Miss Dart, gravely—"though, to be sure, he is not reading it—is rather misleading. It is not the sort of book, to judge from the outside, I should have expected to see him with."

"It is the history of the Anglo-Saxon coinage," observed Miss Mary.

"Just so. Well, he doesn't care about the book, you see, but is only trying to read it; perhaps, to please his friend Mr. Leyden."

"A witch, a witch!" cried Miss Mary, clapping her hands delightedly. "Go on; oh, please go on!"

"Well, I am not sure," proceeded Miss Dart, with deliberation; "I may lose my reputation as a sorceress by such a monstrous suggestion, but the Sybil within me, prompts me to pronounce this young gentleman to be a poet."

"It is marvellous—it is amazing—you are quite right!" exclaimed Miss Mary, in a breath. "Hush!—they are coming in from the dining-room."

In an instant she had put back the photograph-album in its place, and turning to the piano affected to be busy with her music-book. The echoing hall was at the same time filled with voices, and the three gentlemen trooped in.

CHAPTER VI.

JEFFERSON ASKS A FAVOUR.

Mr. Winthrop looked in high spirits, and slightly flushed, the Major somewhat bored, and the Squire like a man who has been put out, and has a great objection to the process. He brushed by the governess as if she had been a piece of furniture, and took up his usual position with his back to the fire, and his arms under his coat-tails. Instead of deriving the usual satisfaction from that attitude, it was plain from the frown on his brow, and the way he looked about him, that he was in a state of discontent. His lips moved not "as if in prayer," but the contrary. Miss Dart even thought she caught the word "idiot" pronounced under his breath; his eyes were at that moment fixed on the pair by the piano, but whether the remark was applied to his daughter or his guest was doubtful: perhaps he used it as a noun of multitude.

"And what have you ladies been doing with yourselves, Miss Dart?" inquired the Major, in sprightly tones.

"Nothing of a very elevating nature, I am afraid," she answered. "We have been looking at photographs."

"What, already?" was his somewhat enigmatical rejoinder. "The Governor in his armour, eh? and our sisters and our cousins and our aunts?"

"Not your sister. I am surprised to find her conspicuous by her absence; not, however, that she would make a good photograph, because she has so much expression."

"Why don't you say what one young lady generally does say of another under such circumstances, 'because her beauty lies in her expression?'"

"Because I do not think so. To my thinking, Miss Melburn is beautiful in both ways, only the sun seldom succeeds in catching the second way."

"It is very kind of you to take that rose-coloured view of her."

"Does not everybody do so?" Miss Dart's eyes involuntarily wandered, as she spoke, towards the piano, at which Miss Mary was sitting down to play, with Mr. Winthrop standing at her side regarding her, glass in eye, with evident admiration.

"He'll break that glass against the keys of the piano, I'll bet a guinea, before he's turned over half a dozen leaves," said the Major, parenthetically. "Well, I don't know as to everybody; brothers, you know, are not apt to be enthusiastic about their sisters' charms."

"I should have thought on the contrary, that they would have been the very persons to take pride in them."

"Indeed; well, you see I'm only a half-brother," said the Major, smiling. "The cousin, by-the-by, has been trotted out of course?"

"The cousin? What cousin? I don't understand you."

"Matt Meyrick, the poet. If the photograph book was exhibited, Mary has surely introduced you to the young gentleman."

"Not by name. There was, I remember, a portrait of a young man, an invalid."

"You may call a man so who has paralysis of the spine, I suppose; but it's a very delicate way of putting it."

"Is it really so bad as that? Poor fellow!"

"He has his compensations, however. In the first place, he has a better opinion of his own talents—I beg his pardon, of his genius—than any young man in the world. Then he is the idol of his mother. He has also an independent worshipper, a mad numismatist; and there's Mary. There are very few people who can boast of three creatures who believe in them; I should be very glad," here the Major sank his voice a little, "to have one."

"These things depend on one's deserts, I fancy," said the governess, quietly.

"That extinguishes me altogether," returned the Major, smiling; but he did not look extinguished nevertheless. His air was gay and his face was bright as he stood beating time to the music, which had now begun, and he certainly looked a very handsome fellow.

The Squire, with one coat-tail under his arm, as an officer carries his sword, now began to move towards the piano with the caution of a sportsman stalking deer; he was fond of music in his way, and his dissatisfied soul seemed to become soothed by it, though his brow was still far from clear. No sooner had he departed from her vicinity, than Miss Dart became conscious of a voice addressing her from above, as gently as falls the dew from Heaven. It was, of course, the Major's voice; but, as his head was nodding to the music, and his eyes fixed on the musician, it was difficult to connect him with it.

"This may be the only opportunity, Miss Dart, I may have to say to you," it murmured, "that, if you could reconsider your determination not to go to the coursing to-morrow, you would lay us all under a great obligation. I do not make use of the argument which would have the greatest weight with most people, that your doing so would be the shortest way of conciliating the authorities" (here he nodded—out of time—towards the Squire) "because I do not think you a person to be actuated by self-interest. I am asking you a favour—not a personal one, of course—but in the name of the family."

"But how can I go?" inquired the governess, in great distress of mind. The manner of the application embarrassed her quite as much as the proposition itself, and yet it was perfectly respectful; moreover, though he put self-interest out of the question, she could hardly doubt from the kindness of his face that he really had her interest in view. "As I told Mr. Melburn at dinner, I have never been on horseback in my life."

"But that is one of the few things that we can teach you; you will certainly have to learn it; so why should you not take

your first lesson to-morrow morning? I can promise you the steadiest of steeds, and that if you feel the least nervous, you shall never be left by yourself even for a minute. I know what a comfort that is when, five years ago, I first learnt to ride a bicycle."

"But I shall shame you all with my awkwardness, and look so ludicrous."

"I venture to differ from you there," said the Major, gravely; "the saddle will not seem a stranger place to you than Burrow Hall, and I prophesy that in a week you will ride like Diana. I mean, of course, Diana Vernon."

"Well, I will speak to your sister about it," said the governess, hesitatingly, "and if she will take the risk of such a companion?"

"Pardon me—I would not do that," interposed the Major; "she has already said that she could not leave you at home alone, and I don't think she would like to lay herself under an obligation to you, as it were, by pressing the matter. Now, though to me I must confess your going or staying at home will make a difference, I am not the principal party concerned, and have therefore ventured to plead with you. If you would tell my father to-night, without mentioning my mediation of course, that you had promised to make one of our party to Clapper's Down, it would give him great pleasure—I wish I could say that it would do so on your account; but the compliment would be transparent; even if you believed me, you would not thank me afterwards for introducing you to a fool's paradise. I trust, Miss Dart, that I have not offended you by my plain speaking?"

"No, no; it is not that," she answered, hurriedly (for the music was already dying away); "since it seems that the matter is really of some importance, I promise you I will go to Clapper's Down."

"A thousand thanks! Bravo! bravo!" His two latter words were a tribute to the musician, but to his companion's ear they had a touch of triumph as well as applause. It was natural, however, that he should be gratified by having overcome her scruples; it was also "nice of him," though it was a mere civility, to say that her going to the meet would make a difference to him. There was not much in common, nor likely to be, between her humble self and the Major; but in the strange and frigid atmosphere in which she found herself, his kind and frank advice came to her like a ray of sunshine on a wintry day.

When Elizabeth Dart had once given a promise, its performance, however unpleasant to herself, if it lay within her power, was certain: and if no opportunity had offered itself of speaking to Mr. Melburn respecting her readiness to join the party to-morrow, she would, somehow or other, have made one. She had made up her mind to speak when Mr. Winthrop should have taken his departure; but, as it turned out, that gentleman was sleeping in the house. He was still in the room when, to her surprise and confusion, Mary rose from her chair and with an "It is getting late, and I am sure you must be tired, Miss Dart, with your long journey," prepared to leave the drawing-room.

The Squire's brow clouded at once; it seemed to the governess, from the glance he cast at her, that she was for the second time incurring his displeasure.

"I hope when you have slept upon it, Mary," he said, in a tone half of persuasion, half of discontent, "that you will reconsider your determination with respect to to-morrow."

"I don't see how, under the circumstances, it can well be altered, papa," she answered, gently, with a look at Miss Dart, the significance of which, however, it was difficult to translate. It might have referred to the expedition in question, or to their going up-stairs.

"I believe," said the governess, modestly, "that it is possible for a person, however insignificant, to interfere with the public enjoyment. Pray do not consider, Mr. Melburn, my unwillingness to venture on horseback as a refusal. Rather than spoil anyone's pleasure, I will go, of course."

The effect of the speech, though it was not impromptu, was far greater than the speaker had anticipated.

"Come, that's well!" cried the Squire, with much satisfaction; "we are all obliged to you, Miss Dart."

"Yes, indeed," assented Mr. Winthrop, with enthusiasm; "she shall have one of my horses, if she likes; Clinker will carry her like a lamb."

"Like a lamb that is rather apt to skip, however," observed the Major, drily. Save to Miss Dart, who knew of course that he was prepared for it, he must have seemed to take her change of purpose with *gauche* indifference.

"She must ride Seaman," said the Squire, decisively; "he will carry her like a rock."

The governess noticed that Mary Melburn had said nothing, which was an embarrassing circumstance, for it was to her, and not to the gentlemen, that she had, naturally looked for an acknowledgment of her offer. It was plain that it had made an impression on her; but it could hardly have been a favourable one, for the delicate pink of her cheeks had deepened into rose colour, and from her eyes there shot a glance of pained surprise.

"If Miss Dart wishes to go," she said, presently, with evident effort, "of course, there is nothing more to be said."

"Oh, but indeed I don't wish it," exclaimed the governess, not without some little resentment. She felt it hard that a self-sacrifice should thus be treated as though it were a self-indulgence; "I only offered."

"What does it signify? The matter's settled," said the Squire, authoritatively. "Remember, young ladies, we breakfast at eight to-morrow, for we must start before nine."

"I hope I did right," said the governess, gently, as she and Miss Melburn went up the stairs together.

"There could be hardly a right or wrong in the matter," was the indifferent reply. "I was not anxious to go myself, but that you did not know."

"Indeed I did not," returned the other, earnestly. "I only thought that it would please your father."

"Just so; and so, you see, it did."

With a hand-shake and a pleasant nod, as if to assure her that no ground for offence had been given, she left her at her door. Nevertheless, that Miss Melburn was annoyed, though it might not be with her, was clear to Miss Dart. As she sat by the fire in her cosy little room pondering on the day's events, it seemed to her that she had unconsciously given a good deal of annoyance. Her material surroundings were comfortable enough; much more so, indeed, than any of which she had had experience. But how far rather would she have been sitting in her own little back room in her aunt's lodgings! What sorry substitutes of genuine ease are all the appliances of luxury; how light in the balance weigh a hundred pretty speeches against one little word of love! Not, indeed—though there had been nothing to complain of in Miss Melburn's behaviour—that anyone had been specially polite to her. No one except the Major had even been at the trouble to take any notice of her. He had, indeed, seemed to understand her position; and, in some sort, even her feelings; and he had certainly meant her well in advising her as he had done, though the result had been disappointing. For the present, it was clear that Mary Melburn was withholding her confidence from her. The social outlook was not only unpromising, but misty.

She knew not where to tread without treading on somebody's toes. How eagerly she would have welcomed some hint of how matters stood, some friendly compass for her future guidance. If she had been in Miss Melburn's place and Miss Melburn in hers, surely, she thought, she would have made some effort to make her course less difficult to her. Common humanity almost seemed to demand it; but this common humanity was, perhaps, not to be found in such superior residences as Burrow Hall. Notwithstanding these desponding thoughts, the very difficulties of her position interested her. She had the power not only of "getting out of herself," so much recommended to persons in trouble by those who themselves are free from it, but of regarding herself from the outside, which is another way of saying that, though perhaps unconsciously, Elizabeth Dart was a student of human nature.

(To be continued.)

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Nov. 25, 1881), with two codicils (dated Nov. 25, 1881, and Dec. 30, 1884), of the Right Rev. James Russell, Lord Bishop of Ely, who died on Oct. 24 last at the Palace, Ely, was proved on the 1st inst. by the Rev. Arthur Robertson Evans and Harry Wilmot Lee, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £19,000. The testator bequeaths £5000 to the said Rev. Arthur Robertson Evans, if his Domestic Chaplain at the time of his decease; the plate, with mitre, presented to him by the town of Leeds, to his executors; the remainder of his plate and £300 to Sarah Ann Appleton; and legacies to his butler and housekeeper. Such part of the residue of his property as he cannot by law bequeath for charitable purposes he gives to the Rev. Harris Fleming St. John; and all such part of the residue of his property as he may by law bequeath for charitable purposes, to the trustees of the Ely Theological College, in augmentation of, and to be blended with, the Endowment Fund.

The will (dated June 28, 1883), with three codicils (dated Nov. 7 and 18, 1885), of Sir William Rose, K.C.B., Clerk of the Parliaments, late of Leiston Old Abbey, Leiston, Suffolk, and of No. 30, Bruton-street, who died on Nov. 19 last, was proved on the 30th ult. by the Hon. Dame Sophia Mary Andalusia Rose, the widow, and Admiral George Henry Douglas and the Hon. Edward William Douglas, the nephews, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £98,000. The testator bequeaths £200 each to the Church Pastoral Aid Society and the Church of England Scripture Readers' Association; £100 each to the Bishop of London's Fund, the Marylebone Female Protection Society, and the London Female Preventive Institution; £50 each to the Irish Church Mission to Roman Catholics, the Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews, the London Diocesan Mission, Pall-mall, the National Society for the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church, and to the same society for the Church of England Poor School Relief Fund for the Metropolis; and numerous other legacies. The real estate inherited by him from his brother, the late Lord Strathairn, except such part as may be in the parish of Christchurch, Hants, and a certain sum of £10,000, he gave to his nephew, George Henry, for life, and then to his said nephew's son, George Sholto. The residue of his real and personal estate he leaves, upon trust, for his wife, for life; at her death he bequeaths many additional legacies and annuities, including £200 each to the Church Pastoral Aid Society and the Church of England Scripture Readers' Association; £100 each to the London Female Preventive Institution, the Bishop of London's Fund, the Marylebone Female Protection Society, and the Homes of Hope, Regent-square, Gray's-inn-road; £50 each to the London Diocesan Home Mission, the Irish Church Mission to Roman Catholics, the Society for the Rescue of Young Women (Cheapside), Westminster Hospital, the Indigent Blind Visiting Society, the East Suffolk Hospital, the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the National Society for Educating the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church; and £25 each to the Indigent Blind Society, Southwark, and the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Kent-road. The ultimate residue of his property he leaves to his nephew, the said George Henry Douglas, for life, and then to the said George Sholto Douglas.

The will (dated Oct. 24, 1868) of Sir Ralph Allen Gosset, K.C.B., formerly Sergeant-at-Arms, in the House of Commons, late of The Wick, Richmond-hill, who died on Nov. 27 last, was proved on the 28th ult., under a nominal sum, by Colonel William Butler Gosset and John Alfred Gosset, the sons, the executors. The testator gives all his estate whatsoever to his wife, Arabella Sarah.

The will (dated Sept. 29, 1884) of General Sir William Marcus Coghlan, R.A., K.C.B., J.P., late of Ramsgate, who died on Nov. 26 last, was proved on the 11th ult., at the Canterbury District Registry, by William Mant Coghlan, the son, one of the executors. The testator bequeaths £50 to each of his executors, and, subject thereto, gives all his real and personal estate to his wife, Dame Mary Jane Coghlan.

The will (dated March 11, 1885) of Mr. Adolphus William Young, J.P., D.L., formerly M.P. for Yarmouth, and afterwards for Helston, late of Hare Hatch House, Wargrave, Berks, who died on Nov. 4 last, was proved on the 21st ult. by Edward Young Western and William Thomas Western, the nephews, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £204,000. The testator bequeaths £2000, and £1200 per annum, for life, to his wife; £600 per annum to each of his daughters for their respective lives; £15,000, upon trust, for his grandsons, John Adolphus and Oliver Broughton, the sons of his late son Barrington; £6000 to each of his sons; and there are other bequests in favour of his daughters, the widow of his late son, relatives, friends, and others. His dwelling-house, Hare Hatch House, and all his real estate in Berkshire, subject to a life interest in a cottage given to two of his daughters, he devises to the use of his son Oliver, for life, with remainder to his first and other sons successively, according to seniority in tail male. On the death of his wife, a sum of £15,000, and on the death of each of his daughters a sum of £7500, are to go with the property devised in strict settlement. The residue of his real and personal estate, including his property in Australia, he leaves to his four sons, Oliver, Horace Henry, Arthur Broughton, and Edward Herbert.

The will of the late General James Edwin Williams, of Glentworth, Cheltenham, was proved on the 20th ult. by his widow and sole executrix (the other executors being deceased), and the whole personalty, upwards of £139,000, was left absolutely to her, upon trust, for all his children, in equal shares.

The will (dated May 12, 1884), with a codicil (dated June 8, 1885), of Mrs. Marian Frances Dobson, late of Lyde House, St. John Hill, Bath, who died on Nov. 3 last, was proved on the 17th ult. by Sir Alexander Bateman Periam Fuller Acland Hood, Bart., George Cavell, and Henry Stilwell, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £41,000. The testatrix bequeaths £5000 to each of the three sons of her

late half-brother, Ferdinand Temple Palmer Losack; and numerous pecuniary and specific legacies to relatives, servants, and others. She also bequeaths £220 to the Convalescent Home, Combe Down; £200 to the National Hospital for the Paralyzed and Epileptic, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury; £110 to the United Hospital, Bath; £100 each to the Mineral Water Hospital, Bath; the Hospital for Incurables, Putney; and the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street;—£55 each to Miss Robinson's Homes for Soldiers and Sailors, Portsmouth, and the Royal Naval Female School; and £25 each to the Deaf and Dumb School, Walcot Parade, Bath; and the Bath Female Penitentiary. All her property, land and town allotments at Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, she gives to her cousin and god-son, Arthur Fuller Acland Hood, and she appoints him her residuary legatee.

The will (dated May 17, 1882), of Mr. Joseph Hornsby Wright, late of No. 3, Abbey-road, St. John's-wood, who died on Oct. 7 last, was proved on the 15th inst., by Mrs. Ann Wright, the widow and sole executrix, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £20,000. The testator bequeaths £1000 and all his furniture, plate, household effects, horses, and carriages, to his wife; £100 to the London Society for Teaching the Blind to Read and Train them in Industrial Occupations; £50 each to the Blind Female Annuity Society and the Church Association; and other legacies. His wife and children being already amply provided for, he leaves the residue of his real and personal estate, upon trust, to pay the income to his sisters, Elizabeth Mary Maria Wright, Mary Ann Wright, and Frances Booth Wright, for their lives, with benefit of survivorship, and on the death of the survivor for his wife, absolutely.

The will (dated Sept. 3, 1885) of Mr. Charles Raikes, C.S.I., late of Mill Gap, Eastbourne, who died on Sept. 16 last, was proved on the 16th ult. by William Alves Raikes, the son, the surviving executor, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £8000. With the exception of a legacy of £500, upon trust, for his grandson, Charles Stanley Raikes, and one of £100 to his butler, the only legatees under the will are testator's sons and daughters.

ENGLISH CARICATURISTS OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY. One of the most interesting illustrated books of the season is a handsome volume, by Mr. Graham Everitt, on *English Caricaturists and Graphic Humourists of the Nineteenth Century* (Swan, Sonnenschein, and Co.). With a competent knowledge of his subject, the author has performed what is evidently a labour of love with discrimination and judgment. His information is extensive, and he has imparted it agreeably and with good taste. We must, however, demur to some of his opinions. For example, we cannot agree that Mr. Caldicott and Colonel Secombe are at the head of the humorous artists of the present day. If such be the case, where are we to place the *Punch* artists—Tenniel, Du Maurier, Keene, and Sambourne? But beyond this expression of opinion, Mr. Everitt does not discuss the merits of those graphic humourists who have made their reputation during the last twenty years—his book, for some unexplained reason, not coming down later than 1864. Although the lives and labours of Gillray and Rowlandson extended into the nineteenth century, the plan of Mr. Everitt's book has not compelled him to trench much upon the ground already occupied by Mr. Grego; and though he reprints some of the woodcuts from the late Mr. Thomas Wright's "Caricature History of the Georges," he avoids, as far as possible, repeating that learned and industrious author. During the first thirty years of the present century, the leading graphic humourists were, of course, Gillray, Rowlandson, and the Cruikshanks; there were a few inferior hands, such as Dighton, Bunbury, and Heath. Then came the first illustrator of "Pickwick," Robert Seymour, who committed suicide at the age of thirty-eight. He was followed by H. B., his son, Richard Doyle, John Leech, and the race of comic artists who have helped to make *Punch* immortal. Before caricature art became developed in comic journalism, the graphic humourists laid their productions before the public chiefly in the form of etched or lithographed prints, and the chief purveyors of such publications, in the days of the Regency, were Mr. Thomas Tegg, of Cheapside, and Mr. Fores, of Piccadilly, the latter name still flourishing in connection with print publishing. Mr. Everitt gives very full particulars of the caricatures published by them, relating to Napoleon Bonaparte, the Prince Regent and his wife, the scandals about the Duke of York and Mrs. Clarke, and a multitude of other matters, such as the introduction of gas, the American War, Master Betty, Joanna Southcott, Romeo Coates, &c. The strong points in the book are the admirable essays on the character and genius of George Cruikshank and John Leech. We cannot acquiesce in the author's opinion that caricature art declined when George Cruikshank became a book illustrator. It merely assumed another form. Mr. Everitt appears to restrict the use of the word caricature to such separate prints as were issued by Gillray, Rowlandson, Cruikshank, and H. B.; yet much of his book is devoted to those comic artists who are only known to the public through the medium of the periodical press. After 1830 books and periodical literature began to multiply, and George Cruikshank, with the other artists of the time, wisely went with the stream. The spirit of caricature was as lively as ever, as is proved by the fact that during the great Reform agitation in 1832 no less than six comic periodicals came into existence in one year in London. Though we may differ from the author on some minor details, we have nothing but praise for the general execution of the book, which is an admirable history of a most interesting subject, illustrated with reprints and copies of curious engravings.

Among the books of the season which seem not altogether intended for general circulation is the *New Guide for the Hotel, Bar, Restaurant, Butler, and Chef* (London: W. Nicholson), a task undertaken by two writers, who adopt the pseudonyms of "Bacchus" and "Cordon Bleu." We do not wish to say a word in disparagement of the knowledge displayed in the compilation of the curious drinks, such as "Stonewall Jackson," "Prairie Oyster," "Ladies' Skin," &c., of which the first part of this book deals; but we doubt the wisdom of revealing, *urbi et orbi*, how imitations of nearly every liqueur, from Bourbon whisky to Curaçoa, can be made, without any regard for the consumer's love of truth or simplicity. The reputation of restaurants and hotels in respect of both wine and liqueurs wants strengthening; and a glance at this book would, we should think, frighten more people into the ranks of abstainers than a dozen discourses in defence of abstinence principles. The second portion of the volume, devoted to hotel and restaurant cookery, is less appalling, and we are disposed to believe that a careful attention to *Bonne Bouche's* hints as to the furnishing of a kitchen would suggest many useful improvements in smaller establishments. The use of "sanitary stoves," which consume every sort of refuse without the least smell, the preference for hard smokeless coal or coke, and the more general use of the Anglo-American enamel pots and saucepans would be found to conduce to cleanliness and economy in every household.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department should be addressed to the Chess Editor, H. H. H. (St. Petersburg).—The problem enclosed in your letter is an old, familiar friend. The idea has been treated by several composers in different forms, so that it is now well known to students of problems.

W. B. (Stratford).—You are too hasty in your conclusions, as you probably know by this time, if you have seen our Number for the 2nd inst.

S. N. (Washington, U.S.A.).—S. F. informed us he had seen the problem before; but we are assured, from your last letter, that he must have been mistaken. The last batch shall have our best attention.

R. M. (Wexford).—Don't be disheartened. Failures often herald successes.

J. H. T.—Thanks for the problem. It shall be examined.

F. F. W. (Mandsworth).—Thanks. It shall be examined.

F. J. S.—The key move is 1. Q. to Q. B. 8th; and, should Black play 1. K. to Kt 3rd, White continues with 2. B. to Kt 3rd, and mate follows, obviously, in two more moves.

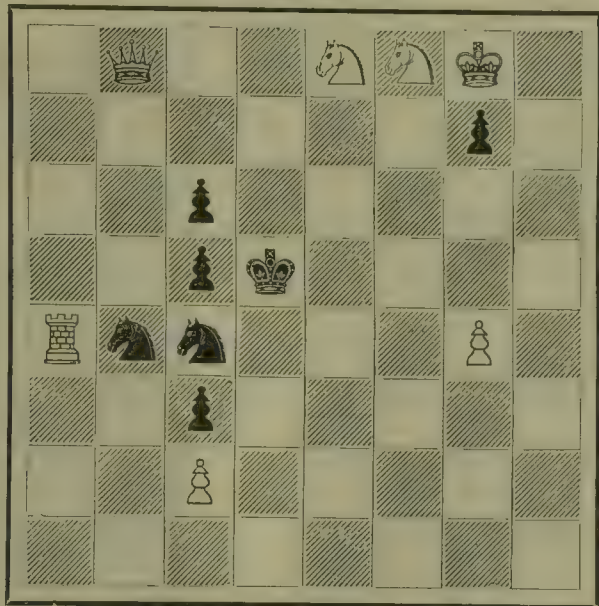
CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2176 received from Menfontiste (Arcachon); of No. 2177 from H. R. Phillips, E. G. Boys; of No. 2178 from W. H. Reed, Pierce Jones, H. R. Phillips, John Coonan, E. G. Boys, J. P. Langley; of No. 2179 from W. H. Reed, A. C. Hurley, W. B. Avery, H. R. Phillips, Hermit, W. P. Welch, E. Ridpath, J. S. (North Ormesby), F. Richardson, Submarine (Dover), F. Marshall, Charles F. Jones (Oxford), Percy Blackland, Pierce Jones, T. G. (Ware), John Coonan, Nos. Redna, E. G. Boys, F. M. D. (Silo).

CHRISTMAS PROBLEMS.—The following have solved all.—Charles F. Jones (Oxford), Pierce Jones, T. G. (Ware), Nos. 1 and 2; Nos. Redna; Nos. 1, 2, and 3, R. W. Spencer; Nos. 1 and 3, and 4, J. B. (St. Andrews); Nos. 2 and 3, Clement Fawcett; No. 3, E. J. Winter Wood.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 2180 received from H. R. Phillips, E. J. Winter Wood, H. Wardle, R. H. Brooks, Jupiter Junior, J. K. (South Hampstead), R. Wood, W. B. Smith, C. Darragh, L. Desanges, W. Hillier, R. Tweddell, Submarine (Dover), G. Oswald, E. S. Junior, L. Falcon (Antwerp), W. R. Haillem, N. S. Harris, Hermit, G. W. Law, U. E. P. Ben Nevis, Pierce Jones, C. S. Cox, Richard Murphy (Wexford), E. Casella (Paris), E. Loudon, A. G. Hunt, Charles G. Brown, E. Elsbury, W. Hugh Evans, Ernest Woolley, E. Conway, Joseph Ainsworth, E. H. S. Bullen, Julia Short, H. Lucas, John F. Wilkinson (B.A.), L. L. Greenaway, T. Roberts, R. L. Southwell, Otto Fulder (Ghent), A. W. Scrutton, T. Jones, F. Lovegrove, Nerina, L. Sharwood, Ernest Sharwood, T. G. (Ware), Eliza Dawbarn (Upper Holloway), L. Wyman, John Coonan, Columbus, J. H. Tamsier, Menfontiste (Arcachon), E. G. Boys, W. E. Stephenson, Conics, F. V. (Brussels), Smidforth, J. E. M. F. John O. Bremner, Dr. A. R. (Rotherham), Clement Fawcett, Commander W. L. Martin, G. Morland Day, Hereward, and Euno (Darlington).

NOTE.—Communications received up to the 8th instant are acknowledged in this Number.

PROBLEM No. 2182.
By JOSEF POSPISIL (Prague).
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

The following is a good specimen of the late Herr FALKBEER's attacking style. It was played many years ago against Herr HAMPE, of Vienna, the inventor of the "Vienna" Game, and the notes appended are abridged from Staunton's "Chess Praxis."

(Vienna Game.)

WHITE (Herr H.)	BLACK (Herr F.)	WHITE (Herr H.)	BLACK (Herr F.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	and then playing his own Bishop to	
2. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	K 3rd, he must have prevented the	
3. B to Q B 4th	P to Q Kt 4th	opening of the King's file, and might	
4. B takes Kt P	P to Q B 3rd	have gained time to bring his own forces	
5. B to Q B 4th	B to Q B 1th	into the field.	
6. P to Q 3rd	P to Q 4th		
7. P takes P	P takes P		
8. B to Kt 5th (ch)	B to Q 2nd		
9. B takes B (ch)	Q Kt takes B		
10. P to K R 3rd			

This was an error, seemingly irreparable; for White never afterwards appears to have had time to liberate his men. We believe he should have played 10. Kt to K R 3rd.

11. Q to K 2nd
 Q to Kt 3rd |

Herr Falkbeer has now a powerful attack, and he maintains it capably.

13. P to Q B 3rd

White's case is too perilous for timid measure. His pieces are locked up, and the position of his King cannot long be tenable. We should at once have sacrificed the Queen's Pawn. By throwing that Pawn forward on the adverse Bishop

The inaugural banquet of the new British Chess Club, 49, Leicester-square, was held at the "Criterion" on Saturday last—Mr. George Newnes, M.P., presiding on the occasion. The chairman was supported by Messrs. F. H. Lewis and Thomas Hewitt (in the vice-chair) and a large number of members and visitors; the latter including Mr. Warton, the champion "bloker" of the late Parliament. The banquet was served in the excellent style for which the "Criterion" is renowned, the "waiting" being conspicuous for the exercise of patience on the part of the visitors. When the cloth was withdrawn, the chairman proposed the loyal toasts, which, as is usual among chessplayers, were cordially and heartily received. The toast of the evening, "The British Chess Club," was also proposed by the chairman, and was responded to by Mr. F. H. Lewis, who, in the course of his observations, referred to the necessity of raising a handicap tournament fund for the club, and announced his intention of starting it with a donation of ten guineas. The Rev. W. Wayte then proposed the health of the club officers, coupling it with the names of Mr. D. Y. Mills, the honorary secretary, and Mr. Cubison, the honorary treasurer. Mr. Mills responded, modestly making light of his own work, and dwelling on the labours of others. The next toast was a compliment to the St. George's Chess Club, proposed by Mr. Cubison and responded to by Mr. Minchin, the honorary secretary of the rival, but nevertheless friendly, association. Mr. Minchin, in returning thanks, referred to the match between Messrs. Steinitz and Zukertort, explaining that the "hitch" which had led to the postponement of play had been adjusted, and that the first shot of the campaign would be fired on Monday, the 11th inst. As we write before that date, we can only express a hope that Mr. Minchin's expectations will be realised. Mr. Hewitt proposed the health of the chess "masters" present, coupling the toast with the names of Messrs. Blackburne and Bird. Mr. Hewitt dwelt on the services of the great masters of chess of the past quarter of a century, their power to instruct and amuse, as well as their great usefulness in promoting the interest of chess and its players. Messrs. Bird and Blackburne responded. The toast of "The Visitors" was responded to by Mr. Warton, who, possibly, without appreciating its full significance to the society of chessplayers, quoted Lord Beaconsfield's apophthegm, "Every man had a right to be concealed until he has done something." Mr. Warton then proceeded to deprive himself of all right to be concealed by making a witty and humorous speech in behalf of the visitors. A vote of thanks to the chairman brought the proceedings to a close. The evening, however, being still young, most of the members returned to the club-rooms, and engaged in play until the usual closing hour.

A pretty problem, from the *Nuova Rivista*, of Rome. It is the composition of D. Bistic, of Trieste:—

White: K at K R 5th, Q at K Kt 7th, Kt at K R sq; B's at K Kt 5th and Q Kt 5th. (Five pieces.)

Black: K at K Kt 7th, Kt at K Kt 8th; Pawns at K R 6th and 7th. (Four pieces.)

White to play, and mate in two moves.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

One of the most beautiful and attractive works of English topography that has ever come under our notice is contained in a handsome quarto volume, published by Messrs. Cassell and Co. (Limited), entitled *The Royal River: the Thames, from Source to Sea*. Before reading the text or looking at the engravings, the eye is charmed with the exquisite fineness of the paper and printing, which are of a quality that can hardly be surpassed. The literary work consists of twelve chapters, written by the Rev. Professor Bonney, Mr. W. Senior, Mr. Edmund Ollier, Mr. H. Schütz Wilson, Mr. Godfrey Turner, and Messrs. Penderel-Broadhurst, D. S. Maccoll, A. Watson, and J. Runciman, describing separate portions of the river's course, from "the Seven Springs," near Cheltenham, where a stream called the Churn rises in the Cotswold Hills, all the way down to the Nore. The Oxford part is treated by Mr. Maccoll; from Henley to Maidenhead, the river, with its delightful banks, is allotted to Professor Bonney; Mr. H. Schütz Wilson and Mr. Godfrey Turner successively deal with its course and neighbourhood from Maidenhead to Windsor and Eton, and thence down to Hampton Court. The places along this familiar voyage are some of the most interesting, from their historical, literary, and biographical associations, that can be visited in all England. The writers have done them justice; and Mr. Ollier, who undertook the London part, from Battersea and Chelsea to London Bridge, sheds a pleasing glow of subdued enthusiasm over his description of metropolitan riverside scenes, especially those still retaining, here and there, an air of historic antiquity, or suggesting grave reminiscences of past ages. On the Lower Thames, arriving at Deptford and Greenwich, proceeding down to Woolwich, to Tilbury and Gravesend, to Sheerness and the Medway, continued discourse of the same character is kept up by agreeable writers. The illustrations, however, merit attention more emphatically from their artistic quality. The frontispiece, a mezzotint engraving of Mr. G. L. Seymour's picture of Cliefden Woods, claims particular admiration in this respect; the numerous wood-engravings, mostly from approved photographs, are finely executed, and small maps are conveniently introduced. We are all fond and proud of the Thames, and Londoners should make it a point of honour to be intimately acquainted with their noble river. They cannot possess a more complete and worthy memorial than this most acceptable volume.

The Religious Tract Society has, during several years past, issued an engaging series of inexpensive volumes, combining popular geographical descriptions with abundance of wood-engravings—"French Pictures," "The German Fatherland," "Canadian Pictures" (by the Marquis of Lorne), "American," "Indian," and other "Pictures," including "Those Holy Fields," and "The Land of the Pharaohs." We have received a new and revised edition of *English Pictures, Drawn with Pen and Pencil*, by the Rev. Dr. Samuel Manning and the Rev. Dr. S. G. Green, which is, as it ought to be, one of the best of the series. It contains pleasant and correct accounts of the Thames, of the Weald of Surrey, Kent, and Sussex; the New Forest, Burnham Beeches, Shakspeare's county in Warwickshire; Bedford and Olney, regarded as Bunyan's and Cowper's; the Derbyshire Peak, Exmoor, Dartmoor, and Cornwall; the English Lakes, Norfolk and the Fen Country; the North Riding of Yorkshire, Northumberland, Snowdon, South Wales, and the Isle of Wight.

Flowers and gardens, with sweet poetry singing about them, should make a bewitching literary compound; and, intermixed with superb colour-printed pictures of the geranium, the convolvulus, the rose, the lily, the dahlia, the hollyhock, the jasmine, and other beloved flowers, the volume published by Mr. T. Fisher Unwin, called *Poets in the Garden*, is a gift-book for the most deserving lady. Its contents, selected and arranged by May Crommelin, the authoress of three favourite novels, "Queenie," "In the West Country," and "Brown-Eyes," consist of verses culled from a multitude of English writers, old and modern, speaking of those lovely things, the blossoms of plants, with expressions of refined sentiment, or touching moral reflections. These are grouped according to the common names of the flowers, set in alphabetical order.

The works of Sir Walter Scott are an inexhaustible mine of *Historical, Legendary, and Romantic Tales*, a volume of which, chosen and adapted from his "Waverley Novels," "Tales of a Grandfather," "Tales of My Landlord," "Lay of the Last Minstrel," "Marmion," "Lord of the Isles," "Border Minstrelsy," and other writings, is published by Messrs. Bickers and Son. It is ornamented with twelve illustrations in permanent photography, the frontispiece being a portrait of Sir Walter Scott. The compiler, Mr. W. E. Dobson, has skilfully extracted such passages of the well-known tales as mainly reproduce the earlier historical or traditional legends used by Sir Walter for the groundwork of his fictions; he has thus substituted a prose narrative of the battle of Flodden for the poetical description in "Marmion," and an authentic account of the feud between the Scotts of Buccleuch and the Kerrs of Cessford, for the subject of the "Lay of the Last Minstrel." But a good deal of Sir Walter's own is here presented, and the book will be interesting, as well as instructive, to those readers who care for Scottish history, and who like to see how near its reality came to its romance.

This consideration also gives an especial interest to *Old and New Edinburgh* (Cassell and Co.), a volume corresponding in form and method with the five volumes of "Old and New London," a work generally known and approved. The ancient heraldic shield of Scotland, whereon "the ruddy lion ramps in gold," adorns the cover of this volume. Mr. James Grant, the author of "Memorials of the Castle of Edinburgh," has written, in forty-nine chapters, the descriptive, historical, and antiquarian notable incidents of that famous and picturesque city, beginning with the supposed prehistoric condition of its site. The Castle, as might be expected, occupies seven or eight chapters; the author then descends the Castle Hill and the Lawnmarket, stops at St. Giles, the Parliament House, and the site of the Tolbooth, peeps into the curious old closes and wynds, comes down the High-street towards the Netherbow and Canongate, explores the Leith Wynd and the West Bow, relates the Edinburgh experiences of 1745, and devotes several chapters to the North Bridge and the South Bridge; he also makes a suburban excursion to the Plaisance and St. Leonard's. The New Town is apparently reserved for a second volume. The book is illustrated by numerous wood-engravings of well-chosen subjects.

This is the hunting season; and some country gentlemen may be interested just now in the subject of an amusing pictorial history, entitled *How My Hunter was Lamed, and How the Lameness was Cured*. The designs, by a clever artist, Mr. John Sturgess, are spirited and true representations of horses and riders in the field; and the manner in which a fine horse, after clearing its fences well, comes to grief on loose stones in the road, is portrayed with much effect. The cure is wrought, of course, by Elliman's Royal Embrocation; and Messrs. Elliman and Son, of Slough, are the publishers of this entertaining series of drawings.



BULGARIAN CAVALRY CHALLENGED BY SERBIAN INFANTRY.



A FROZEN OUTPOST.



INSPECTION OF CORRESPONDENTS' LETTERS AND SKETCHES.



NEWSPAPER WAR CORRESPONDENTS RECONNOITRING THE LINES.



SICK AND WOUNDED SOLDIERS AT AK PALANKA.



THE WAR BETWEEN SERVIA AND BULGARIA: SERVIAN ARTILLERY CROSSING THE PLOČA MOUNTAINS IN A SNOWSTORM.
FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST, MR. J. SCHÖNBERG.

THE MILLAIS EXHIBITION AT THE GROSVENOR GALLERY.

SECOND NOTICE.

By the aid of Mr. F. G. Stephen's excellently edited catalogue, it is comparatively easy to trace the various phases of Millais' art. The Pre-Raphaelite movement, in which he took a leading part, coincided with that general uprising throughout Europe before which dynasties and philosophies alike tottered; and nowhere more than in English art was there greater need of a peaceful revolution. Slovenliness of work, conventionality of design, poverty of imagination, were its leading characteristics. The revolutionists naturally erred in going to the other extreme: minuteness of detail, originality in composition, and an exaggerated symbolism marked their works; and although from an early date Mr. Millais caught the higher "humanism" of the great Italian masters, as well as their love of rich colouring, many of his earlier works, even when looked at through the standard of to-day's taste, must seem over-strained or ultra-defiant. Amongst such, we should class "Grandfather and Child" (1849), whilst fully recognising the truth with which the brilliant sunlight is given; "Ferdinand Lured by Ariel" (1849), "Mariana in the Moated Grange" (1850), "Ophelia" (1852), and even the much and deservedly praised "Autumn Leaves" (1856). The original form of "The Woodman's Daughter" (1851) differs somewhat materially from the picture now exhibited (115), marking the change which has come over the painter's mind in his view of the functions of art. There are other pictures belonging to this first epoch of Millais' life, which deserve a separate notice. Of these, the most prominent is that of "Christ in His Parents' House" (4), otherwise known as "The Carpenter's Shop." The outcry which it aroused on its first exhibition, in 1850, was well-nigh universal; and in describing the general details as "revolting," not a voice was raised in defence of the exquisitely beautiful face and pose of the Child St. John bringing the water to wash the youthful Christ's self-inflicted wound. In this work, also, we find traces of Sir John Millais' second thoughts, for, unless our memory fails us, as originally painted, the Virgin, symbolising her sex, displayed a "bruised heel" in somewhat ghastly prominence, whilst in her face the artist had attempted to convey a complicated current of feelings. The "Isabella and Lorenzo" (120) of the preceding year had not aroused anything like the general outcry which greeted the "Carpenter's Shop," although in its technical treatment it had run counter to every prejudice of the day. But Keats was then under a cloud, and painters who sought for inspiration from neglected and almost unknown poets might be allowed to indulge in eccentricities. Almost simultaneously appeared the first of a series of pictures which was, by slow degrees, to lift Millais into the first ranks as a popular favourite, and at the same time to force from contemporary artists a recognition of his talents. Of these, the first and in a sense the most important was "The Huguenot" (6), of which the much-discussed colouring is as brilliant to-day as when it was first exhibited (1852). It was followed the next year by "The Proscribed Royalist" (125) and "The Order of Release" (not exhibited on the present occasion), and six years later by "The Black Brunswicker" (123). In each of these works the same motive is predominant, but in a different key: the conflict between love and duty, or love and danger. To this period also belong such works as "L'Enfant du Regiment" (65), a wounded child lying on the marble statue of some old knight, covered by a soldier's jacket; "Sir Ysumbras" (124), a knight on a black horse crossing a ford, carrying with him two children to the opposite side of the river; and "The Vale of Rest," two nuns digging a grave in the convent cemetery, of which only a sketch in black and white (129), is here to be seen. With "Rescue" (92), a scene at a fire; "The White Cockade" (10); "The Ransom" (116), a group of figures in sixteenth century costume; and "The Eve of St. Agnes" (29), a single figure of Madeline bathed in pale moonlight, as she stands before her couch in the wainscoted room, the purely romantic or imaginative period of Millais' art seems to have closed, and henceforward, even when he sought imaginary settings for his work, he drew his actual characters from real life—as in the case of such works as "The First Sermon" (113), the child all attention, and "The Second Sermon" (127), the child fast asleep; portraits of his eldest daughter, who appears again in "Waking" (114), "The Minuet" (119), and "Sisters" (71). At intervals, it is true, down to 1870, when he painted "The Knight Errant" (41), at once his most ambitious and least happy effort, Millais occasionally sought for subjects outside the range of daily life; but, unless we except "Victory, O Lord" (98), Aaron and Hur holding up the arms of Moses, which may almost be ranked amongst the poetic landscapes, we

may say that for the last fifteen years purely imaginative work has been put aside. The transition, however, from the early style was at first gradual. The titles of his pictures remained fanciful, and his characters were invested with the attributes of poetry or fiction, although his figures were designedly portraits of those who sat to him. To this transition period belong such works as "Leisure Hours" (8), the daughters of Mr. J. Pender, "Stella" (16) and "Vanessa" (24), "New-laid Eggs" (81), "The Yeoman of the Guard" (86), painted as late as 1877; and in the same category may be placed one of his most important works, "The North-West Passage" (60), of which enough has already been said.

Sir John Millais' career as a portrait-painter, *pur et simple*, may be said to have begun when he first touched a brush; at all events, that of "Mr. W. W. Fenn" (129) ranks chronologically before all his other works now exhibited, and actually precedes the Pre-Raphaelite movement. It is, consequently, interesting, as affording a clue as to the direction Millais' talent would have led him. In the portrait of "Mr. Ruskin" (12), done six years later—in 1854—we see the rigorous application of the realistic method, and, almost in spite of ourselves and our sense of its incongruity, we are forced to admit the attraction of a full-length portrait of a gentleman, in a black frock-coat, standing beside a rocky stream. But we have to wait until 1869 before we find Millais fairly launched upon his career as a portrait-painter. His earliest works here shown, at least, belong to that year; and those who, on the one hand, will carefully examine the delicate work in the treatment of "Miss Nina Lehmann" (94), seated on a blue-green flower-vase in a conservatory; and, on the other, look to the simple, direct treatment of "Sir John Fowler" (22), in the everyday costume of a man of business, will see the starting-point of the artist's future success. It is unnecessary to trace at length the development of that talent which, by its many-sidedness, recalls the genius of Reynolds, and with which it has so much in common. It will suffice to name a few of the works which mark this never-ceasing progress towards perfection which is not the least delightful note of Sir John Millais' art. Amongst the works in which grace and fancy are most marked, we will place "Hearts are Trumps" (83), the portraits of the three Miss Armstrongs, and directly inspired by Reynolds' picture of Walpole's nieces; "Miss Eveleen Tennant" (28), "The Misses Hoare" (48), "The Jersey Lily," Mrs. Langtry (23), "The Princess Elizabeth" (37), a portrait of his own daughter; and others. In another category we must place such portraits as those of "Mrs. Schlesinger" (32), "Mrs. Stibbard" (55), "Mrs. Budgett" (64), "The Duchess of Westminster" (74), and "Lady Campbell" (85), whom he had before painted as Miss Nina Lehmann. Of the men's portraits, many may be tempted to think that Sir J. Millais has done few more forcible and characteristic than that of "Thomas Carlyle" (15), which dates from 1877, and belongs to the same year as "The Yeoman of the Guard." There was a certain weird look in the eyes of the philosopher of Chelsea which the artist has caught with marvellous exactness, and we can only hope that some day this portrait, the only one worthy to be so reckoned, of our great historian, may become the property of the nation. "The Earl of Shaftesbury" (72), "Mr. Gladstone" (97), "Mr. John Bright" (99), "The Earl of Beaconsfield" (84), "Mr. J. C. Hook, R.A." (44), and "The Marquess of Salisbury" (82), testify to the wide range of the artist's sympathies, as well as to his power of defined expression. In his children's portraits, especially of later years, he has also shown a desire to follow the footsteps of Reynolds, and, although some of his most successful in this line are not here, yet the power and delicacy exhibited in some of the earlier and more imaginative works, where children played an important part, reappear in maturity of power in such works as "Still for a Moment" (27), dating from 1874, "Getting Better" (26), "Beatrice Caird" (9), "Dorothy Thorpe" (56), and find their fullest tenderness and pathos in "Orphans" (49), which was exhibited last year at Burlington House.

Of Millais as a landscape-painter we have hitherto said nothing. It is a phase of his art of which he has given a few, but mostly very noteworthy, examples. Like Gainsborough, he seems to have looked upon such works chiefly as relaxation from the more profitable occupation of portrait-painting. Although in such works as "Sir Ysumbras" and "The Vale of Rest" landscape backgrounds have been introduced, bearing testimony to the painter's power, he never, until after he had gained the full honours of an Academician, gave up an entire canvas to the rendering of the beauties of Nature. Even in "The Romans Leaving Britain" (painted in 1865), which gave him an occasion for showing how he could paint sea-cliffs and sea, the figures of the Roman legionary and his British mistress (a portrait of Miss Scott Russell) are the prominent features of the picture. In "Rosalind

and Celia" (100), three years later, we have also some careful rendering of forest scenery—a precursor of the "Idyll" (10), with its drummer-boy under the tree, which was exhibited only eighteen months ago. In 1870, however—the year which also gave us "The Knight Errant," "The Widow's Mite" (5), and "The Boyhood of Raleigh" (96)—in an episode of the Sheffield inundation, which had furnished Charles Reade with the dénouement of one of his novels, Millais found an inspiration which brought him prominently into notice in a new line. "In a Flood" (14), the whole country, as far as eye can see, is under water; but over the general ruin and desolation a little baby, in its cradle, unconscious of the danger, is being whirled along the turbid stream. The pale-grey, rain-charged clouds, barely gilded by the chill autumn sun, the trees in the distance, just visible through the mist, show imaginative power, combined with technical skill, of no common order. In the following year, "Chill October" (21), the most imaginative of all Millais' landscapes, at once established his position as the most poetical and, at the same time, most thoroughly national of contemporary English painters. The varying hues of the autumn river, the sadly bending rushes, and the silver willows against the waning light of evening are full of pathos and beauty; and the traces of his earlier love of detailed painting are visible in the minute care given to the marsh grass and water plants which line the bank. Five years later Millais again surprised and delighted his admirers by two works conceived in a softer and more genial mood—"The Deserted Garden" (107) and "The Fringe of the Moor" (108), followed the next year by a glorious bit of Highland scenery, "Over the Hills and Far Away" (17). In the first he had shown the struggle between the garden exotics and the encroaching flowers of the field and forest. The dividing line between art and nature has long since disappeared, only an aged sun-dial, grey and weather-beaten, bearing witness to the past. The distance is shrouded in a soft mist, through which the pine-trees of the hill-side are distinguishable at intervals. "The Fringe of the Moor" is the very converse of "The Deserted Garden," for in it we have the steady advance of man's labour, and its slow conquest of the waste of Nature. The tone of the picture is in harmony with the subject—bright, hopeful, and vigorous. A passing cloud has for a moment obscured the sun, but it will soon pass, bringing good tidings to the toiling labourers. The third picture of this trilogy, "Over the Hills and Far Away," looks like a vacation ramble. Nearly everyone can recall the well-known stretch of forest and moorland from Birnam, looking across Strath Tay towards Dunkeld, and here we have the scene, transferred to canvas, bathed in the soft light of a summer day, the pools and their banks, the flowering grasses, and the boulders of rock vieing with each other which shall throw most light and variety of colour into the foreground of the picture. Beyond, there is a wide extent of heather-clad moorland, which takes up the rich tints, blending them delicately, until they are lost in the shadows of the upland greens, or in the vaporous atmosphere which obscures the moors. The other landscapes exhibited comprise "Scotch Firs" (109) and "Winter Fuel" (110), which belong to a somewhat earlier date. They are rather careful studies of forest scenery than wide-embracing views, and display the technical rather than the poetical powers of the painter; and the series of landscapes closes—too soon, we feel—in 1876, with "The Sound of Many Waters," which, whilst offering nothing in common with "The Flood," his first great attempt in rendering the forces of Nature, may with advantage be contrasted with that work, as marking the changes through which the artist had passed in the brief space of six years.

If called upon to say what was the precise feeling produced by the sight of this very remarkable collection of the works of a single man, we should have some difficulty in answering. The extraordinary mastery of colour which Millais showed from the very first clings to his work more closely than any other quality. As a skilful draughtsman, and a vigorous painter, who knows exactly what effect every stroke of his brush will produce, each year shows greater self-confidence, and carries the lesson of rapid execution. But, on the other hand, the simplicity of purpose which marked his early works (1850-1863), and the refined imaginative power of the second period (1863-1877), alike seem to be in danger of being lost in presence of the temptations which beset the path of the artist *à la mode*.

According to the Board of Trade returns recently issued, the falling off in value in the imports into the United Kingdom during last year amounted to £15,940,235, as compared with the preceding year. During the same period the decrease in the value of the exports was no less than £19,993,835. The decreased value of the exports was visible in every branch of trade.

OF ALMOST MIRACULOUS POWER.

(From the London "Sunday Times.")

A few weeks ago we published an article giving some wonderful and astonishing experiences of numerous persons with a remedial agent now being introduced in this country as an alleviator and cure of certain diseases hitherto dealt with as incurable. When the rustic doctor told "Old Benjy," in "Tom Brown's School Days," that churchyard mould was the only cure for "rheumatix," little was known on the subject of this painful disease.

In the article referred to above, such wonderful cases of almost miraculous cures were mentioned, and verified by a gentleman connected with this paper on his own experience and that of other well-known persons, that it would seem impossible for anything more remarkable to be brought forward; but, the ball having once been started, it is astonishing how matter accumulates on the way, for in the short time since this subject was last noticed in these columns, some still more wonderful cases have been brought before our notice, and all old inclinations to doubt and disbelieve have entirely vanished. It seems almost too much for any testimony to convince the mind that such a positive remedy ever existed, but undoubtedly such is the case, and believing it to be of vital interest to the public, we give a few facts as they came to our notice. As some of the persons are so well known, comment in these cases will be unnecessary. Mr. W. Y. Peel, a nephew of the late Sir Robert Peel, and Bachelor of Arts of Cambridge University, writes that, his attention having been called to the remedy by

the article referred to as having been published by us, he, being a sufferer from neuralgia, used it, and was decidedly benefited, and that he is fully satisfied of its efficiency. Another gentleman, from the same eminent seat of learning—Mr. R. Butler, Master of Arts of Cambridge—writes from his residence, 24, Devonshire-terrace, Hyde Park, London:—"Having used St. Jacobs Oil for rheumatism, it is with much pleasure that I certify to its marvellous curative powers; it not only cured all pain, but seems to have removed it entirely, as it has never returned. Many prominent persons with whom I am acquainted, and who have been strongly opposed to the use of any remedy recommended outside of the profession, have used it, with the best results."

The following is perhaps the most remarkable proof of the wonderful powers of this astonishing remedy:—Henry Coates, of 11, Cheatham-place, Adelaide-street, in the borough of Kingston-upon-Hull, railway employé, who had been a terrible sufferer for many years from rheumatism in its worst forms, having had the before-mentioned article read to him, determined upon a trial, which has been attended with the most extraordinary results; and being anxious that his experience should be known to other sufferers, he determined to bring it forward in such a manner as to leave no possible doubt of its reliability. So on June 17, he appeared before Mr. E. Singleton, a commissioner to administer oaths in the Supreme Court of Judicature in England, and made oath as follows:—"He affirmed that he had been totally unable to work for a long time, and had been confined to his bed for a considerable period; that he had tried various doctors and many remedies, but that he grew worse instead of better, that at one time his joints were so swollen that he could not wear

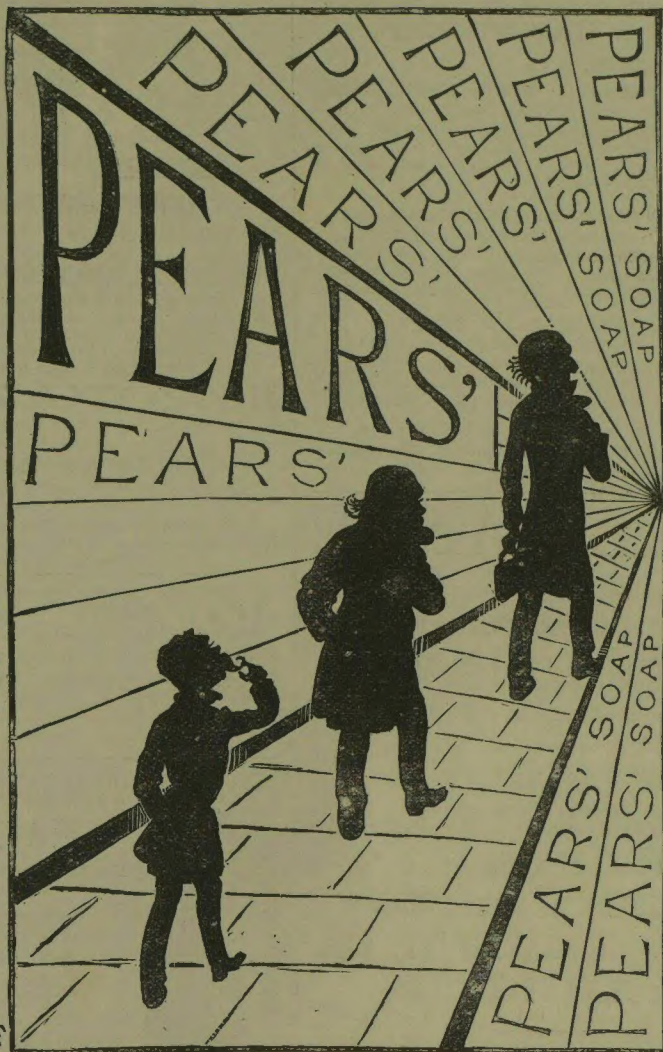
boots, and two crutches were hardly sufficient to support him. After having heard of St. Jacobs Oil, in the manner before stated, he purchased a bottle. In twelve hours he found relief, and, persevering in its use, he is now cured of his rheumatism, works daily, and can not only walk with ease without a stick, but can run; he enthusiastically recommends this great remedy to anyone suffering from any form of rheumatism, as it has not only done wonders for him, but many of his friends. One of the oldest chemists of Hull, Mr. T. W. Robinson, in commenting upon this marvellous cure, writes that this is only one of many similar cures that have come to his notice. A. E. Painter, the famous jumper of the London Athletic Club, writes that he strained and bruised his ankle in jumping hurdles, so as to disable himself. At the suggestion of a friend, he used St. Jacobs Oil, with the most marvellous results. E. J. Wade, of the same club and Ranelagh Harriers, sprained his leg, and cured it in a similar way. He says that athletes should never be without a bottle. Mr. H. J. Masters, a leading chemist, of 12, Argyle-street, Bath, writes that it is particularly adapted for the cure of muscular rheumatism and sprains of long standing, and that one of the leading physicians of Bath highly recommends it to his patients. From the same city, Miss Emma Arthur, the well-known medical rubber at the Burlington House, Burlington-street, writes that she has treated over thirty cases of rheumatism and neuralgia with St. Jacobs Oil, that it has given the greatest relief and satisfaction, and that some of the most prominent medical men are recommending it as an invaluable cure for these complaints. We find also that a number of infirmaries, homes, and hospitals are already familiar with its merits, and are using it with great success. Henry

and Ann Bright, hon. superintendents of the North London Home for Aged Christian Blind Women, say that it has proved itself unfailing in its results, that attacks of rheumatism, neuralgia, and other pains and aches have in every case been removed, and that many old ladies—some of ninety years of age—instead of tossing about in agony, have been relieved, and had many good nights' rest through its wonderful influence. Mrs. Bright says that she can scarcely say enough in its favour.

We have also the following from Mr. John M. Campbell, proprietor of the Adair Arms Hotel, Ballymena, Ireland, under date July 18, 1885:—"Mr. Campbell is well known throughout Ireland in connection with the above hotel, and his testimony can be relied upon. He writes that it is with much pleasure that he acquaints us with the great change he has experienced from the application of St. Jacobs Oil, that it would be hard to conceive anything work a cure so rapidly, and that, on application, his leg seemed to be experiencing an electric shock. After years of severe rheumatic gout or rheumatism, he says he is now without pain, and further, that he has used the Oil for cramps and cramp in his children, and found it most efficacious. We have given the details as above, as we think it well that full publicity should be extended to a matter of such particular interest to all. It may be added that the price of this remarkable remedy is within the reach of all classes, being sold at 2s. 6d. a bottle, by chemists, and sent by post for 2s. 9d. On calling upon the Great Britain branch of the proprietors, The Charles A. Vogeler Company, 45, Farringdon-road, London, our representative was shown a mass of testimonials, of the same nature as above, from all parts of the United Kingdom, and from France, Germany, and other countries.

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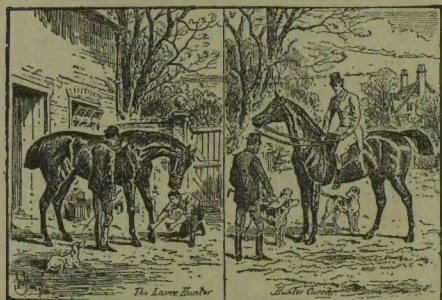
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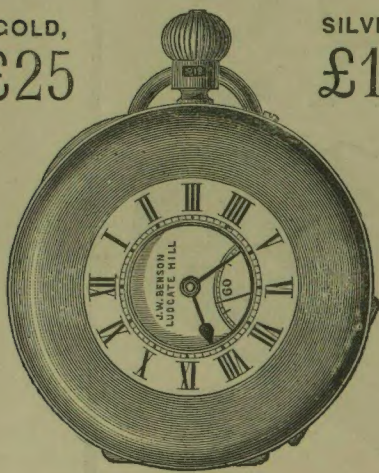
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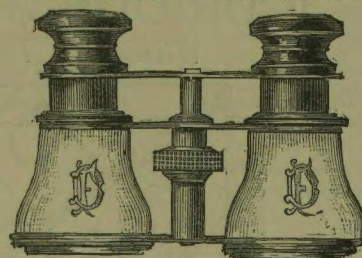
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